

# THE TIMES

## Scenes of misery and despair as Americans abandon Saigon in waves of helicopters

Scenes of chaos and looting in Saigon, United States yesterday lifted thousands of Americans from the roofs of buildings and the city's ships waiting off the coast. Desperate Vietnamese

pleaded and offered bribes for a place or tried to make their own escape. The Vietcong dismissed reports of a ceasefire, and increased its demands. Late last night an uneasy calm had spread over the city.

### etcong dismiss all reports of a negotiated ceasefire

French national, *France Reuter* correspondent behind after the report from Saigon

Helicopters lifted Americans and Vietnamese from the final American base in Vietnam. The final battle for Saigon erupted early this morning as Communist units moved into the suburbs of the city. The base of the American Embassy was attacked by heavy rockets and heavy artillery.

This is the last dispatch filed by Peter Hain, the British ambassador in Vietnam, yesterday before attempting to leave Saigon. The final battle for Saigon erupted early this morning as Communist units moved into the suburbs of the city. The base of the American Embassy was attacked by heavy rockets and heavy artillery.

Runways were ripped up almost 11 hours after the communist pilots, flying captured American A-1H fighters, attacked the base of the first air strike launched by the North Vietnamese during the Indo-China war. The deserted streets of Saigon were shaken by the continual blasts of artillery fire from the north-west. Two American

Marines from the complement of American forces sent in to evacuate foreigners and American nationals were reported to have been killed by heavy artillery fire. As the sun rose, heavy plumes of smoke could be seen billowing over the north-western region of the city. Two Government aircraft which were seen over the airport were hit by missiles.

had reached agreement in principle to call a ceasefire tomorrow, but the communists raised two more demands before there could be a formal truce. Vice-President Nguyen Van Thieu said on Saigon radio and television that his Government had decided to meet the last two demands of the Vietcong for the opening of peace talks, an end to American intervention in Vietnamese affairs and abolition of the Saigon "war machine."

Among them was Mr Graham Martin, the Ambassador. Although no Vietnamese were due to leave in today's evacuation, many were bundled on to buses at the last moment to join the evacuation convoys to Tan Son Nhut. Thousands of other Vietnamese civilians crowded in front of the American Embassy, begging for a ride out of Saigon. Some were reported to have offered embassy guards hundreds of dollars to be allowed to enter the compound.

The Saigon river provided an escape route for some who took boats down to the port of Yung Tau where radio reports said hundreds of ships were jammed with tens of thousands of refugees. The tension in the city was increased by an unexplained two-hour power cut in the evening. By tonight, American figures put the number of people evacuated today at 4,500, including about 700 of the 900 Americans believed to have been in Saigon. Another 2,000 Vietnamese were taken to Bangkok by South Vietnamese Air Force pilots.

Political sources said late tonight that the South Vietnamese Government would agree if necessary to disarm most of its forces. The American fleet was expected to leave Vietnamese waters once the evacuation was completed. Many South Vietnamese soldiers were reported to be fleeing the Saigon area, as were sailors who loaded their families aboard navy vessels in the Saigon river for a flight to the South China Sea. Many Air Force men commandeered South Vietnamese helicopters and crashed landed near American evacuation ships in the hope that they and their families would be picked up. They were UPI would be picked up.

## dent Ford says evacuation of icans is complete

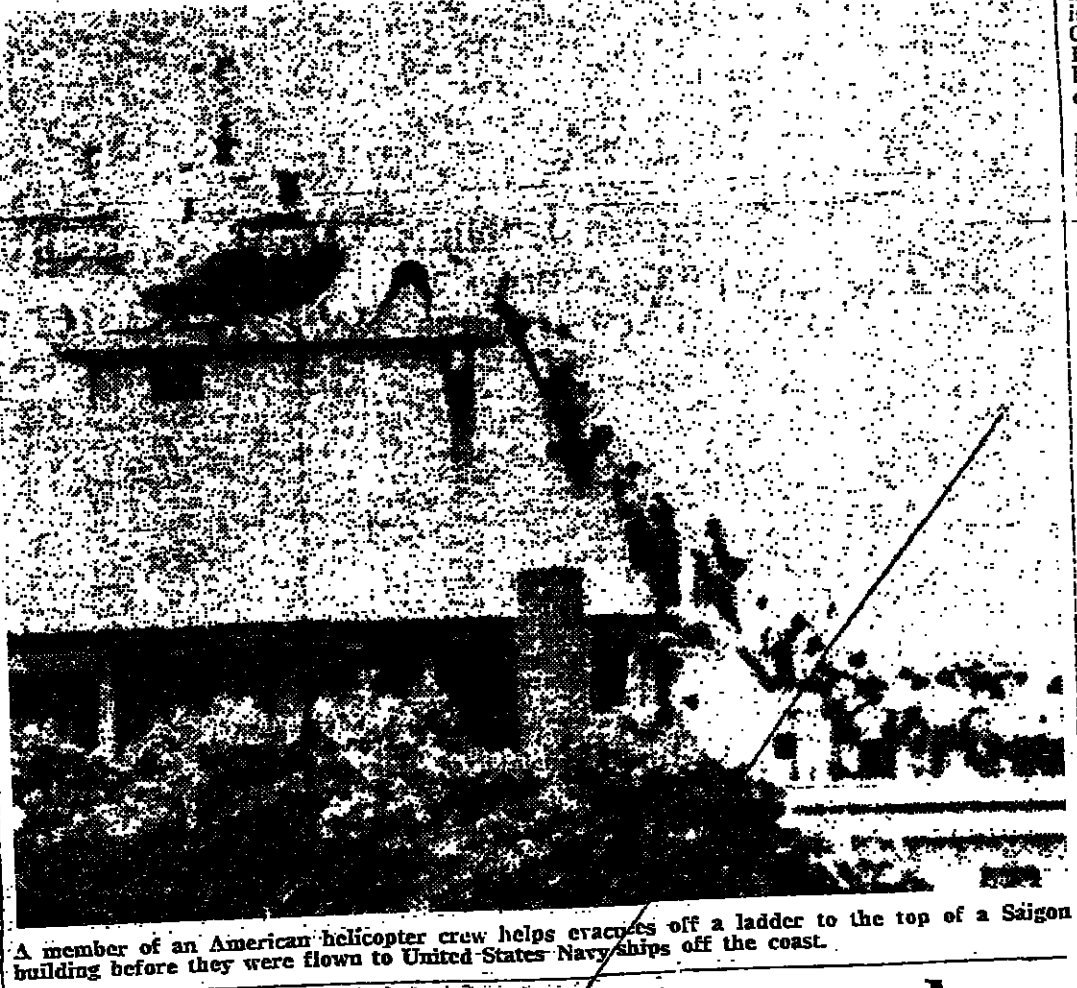
Mr Ford and Patrick Brady announced that the evacuation of Americans from Saigon was complete. In a statement issued at 5 p.m., the operation ended the evacuation of the city. The evacuation of the city was completed at 5 p.m. The evacuation of the city was completed at 5 p.m. The evacuation of the city was completed at 5 p.m.

and they were being escorted also by American aircraft. The final total of Americans evacuated was 4,500, about a third of the number mentioned previously by various American officials. It is too soon to know how many of those who are said to be at risk are among the 50,000.

Legislation which has been rushed through Congress to provide military and humanitarian aid to South Vietnam and authority for the President to use American forces to cover the evacuation has been overtaken by events. No one will complain that the Marines were used before the Bill became law: the House of Representatives will vote on this morning.

The grim withdrawal decision came late last night at the White House when both political and military imperatives precipitated a decision. President Richard Nixon said: "Big Mike" surprised me. Americans with his demand for the immediate withdrawal and the communists almost immediately closed the airport with a rocket barrage that killed two American Marines.

The political compulsion was not formally acknowledged by President Ford who spoke only at the beginning of the evacuation, at the end of the evacuation, and at the end of the evacuation.



A member of an American helicopter crew helps evacuate off a ladder to the top of a Saigon building before they were flown to United States Navy ships off the coast.

## Phnom Penh exodus arranged

From Peter Strafford, New York, April 29. Arrangements have been made for the evacuation from Cambodia of 610 people, mostly French, to Phnom Penh, Embassy Nations officials announced today. They are to be taken to the Thai border in Cambodian lorries, and are expected to arrive there tomorrow afternoon or Thursday morning.

They will be met at the border by French officials and by representatives of the Red Cross and the United Nations. They are expected to arrive in groups of 120.

This arrangement, if it is carried out, will put an end to the increasingly critical situation in the embassy, where there has been a shortage of food and medicine. Apart from the French nationals, there in the embassy include Russians, East Germans, Indians and Pakistanis and some American journalists.

## ur facing revolt rty staff

policy-makers face a revolt in the House of Commons today to have a national referendum on the EEC. Last night, 50 votes to 15, a statement by Mr Ronald Davies, a general secretary, members should have issued from the majority referendum news, Page 4.

## US to close bases in Greece

The United States and Greece jointly announced yesterday that they had agreed to close the homeposting of American close air bases at Elefsis, near Athens airport, and limit the overall American presence in Greece.

## Stiffer fines for 'lump' tax abuses

Harsher penalties for building workers found guilty of tax abuses are included in the Finance Bill published yesterday. Maximum fines for workers who fraudulently try to obtain exemption certificates are to be increased ten-fold. The new legislation lays down a fine of up to £5,000 on summary conviction for those who make false statements or furnish false documents to obtain certificates.

## Colwell case plea

The confidentiality of social security files and police records should be breached to help to prevent further tragic deaths, the death of Maria Colwell, that was suggested yesterday in a study on the implications of the Colwell case, published by East Sussex County Council, which was mainly responsible for the girl's care.

## HOW MUCH DO YOU VALUE YOUR VALUER

Regular valuations of tangible assets are now required for both balance sheet and insurance purposes by law. They may also form the basis for the gearing of an operation both in good times and bad. Gearing on the basis of a 1972 valuation could well result in over extension in 1975. Values are volatile and returns fluctuate widely in times of economic uncertainty. Where prime property values rose 4 to 6% in 1973 it is likely that they will fall 2 to 3% in 1975. Regular valuations are necessary not merely for the provision of full management information. They are essential for the control of orderly expansion in the growth of the business.

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## Guard held over consulate murders

From Our Correspondent, Johannesburg, April 29. After their first murderous taste of urban terrorism, South Africans reacted with shock and disbelief today at learning it was the work of one man, David Proctor, aged 24, the security guard at the Israel Consulate-General in Johannesburg, who kept squads of police and army sharpshooters at bay for 16 hours, is being interrogated in Pretoria by security police.

## Stonehouse extradition warrant is issued

By Michael Horsnell. A warrant for the extradition of Mr John Stonehouse, MP, was issued in London yesterday and the police expect to bring him back to Britain by July. The warrant, signed by Sir Frank Milton, Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, at Bow Street Magistrates' Court, will be taken to Melbourne today by Det. Chief Supt Kenneth Etheridge, of Scotland Yard's fraud squad. The issue of the warrant was the second development yesterday in the Stonehouse affair. Earlier, it was disclosed that the name of the late Mr Neil McBride, former Labour MP for Swansea, East, who died last September, appeared on a passport application by Mr Stonehouse. The application was in the name of Joseph Arthur Markham, a lead constituent of Mr Stonehouse, from Walsall, North. Mr Etheridge, who has been conducting most of the inquiries and is second in command of the eight-man "Stonehouse squad" will take with him to Australia 70 depositions by witnesses in the case. Six further charges were brought against Mr Stonehouse yesterday, largely involving alleged attempts to obtain £135,000 from insurance companies in Britain by fabricating evidence from which death would be presumed. The policies were all begun only a few weeks before Mr Stonehouse disappeared last November. A warrant was issued yesterday for the extradition of Mr Stonehouse. Continued on page 2, col 3

Mr James Kruger, the Minister of Police, has said he will probably be charged with murder. Three people are dead and 27 injured. The body of one, Mr Proctor's security colleague, was found in the building after the dawn raid. Mr Proctor was found in the building after the dawn raid. Mr Proctor was found in the building after the dawn raid.

Mr Stonehouse was found in the building after the dawn raid. Mr Stonehouse was found in the building after the dawn raid. Mr Stonehouse was found in the building after the dawn raid.

## Duchess of Kent

The Duchess of Kent has been unable to carry out her engagements for the next few days, it was announced from York House, her London home, yesterday.



HOME NEWS

Lord Goodman's talks with MPs may settle vital press vote

Crucial private discussions in the House of Lords today between Lord Goodman, chairman of the Newspaper Proprietors Association, and Lord Houghton, chairman of the House of Commons Select Committee on the Press, are expected to settle whether the Government will accept a new code of practice for the press.

Lord Goodman carried an amendment to the Bill in the Lords by 125 votes to 48 on March 24, and the attitude of a small group of Labour backbenchers, if they can be convinced today, that the Government will accept the code, will decide the issue when the measure returns to the Commons, probably next week.

Conservatives and Liberals are expected to vote against the closed shop provisions of Mr. Foot's Bill, as they would apply to newspapers and periodicals. If they are reinforced by a few Labour MPs, the Goodman amendment would stand.

Contrary to the closed-shop provisions has been intensified by the decision of the National Union of Journalists' conference in Cardiff on April 21. A motion was carried, against the advice of the moderate leadership, that a closed shop should include editors and that all non-NUJ jour-

Challenge to a TUC committee's ruling

The TUC is to contest a move challenging a ruling of its disputes committee in an internal dispute over poaching allegations, Mr. Justice Walton was told in the High Court yesterday. The constitution and powers of the disputes committee would need to be investigated when the case is heard, the judge said.

The dispute began when the 3,000-member State Association of General Accident Assurance (SAGA) amalgamated with the Association of Professional, Executive and Computer Staff (APEX). The Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs (ASTMS) complained.

In its adjudication on the complaint, the TUC disputes committee ordered the amalgamation to be "unscrutinized" and said ASTMS was the proper union for SAGA members. Mr. Alexander Irvine, counsel, said. He appeared for Mr. Charles Rothwell, chairman of SAGA, in proceedings which he has started against APEX and the TUC challenging the validity of the disputes committee decision.

At this stage Mr. Rothwell has named only APEX as a defendant, and is seeking an interim injunction to stop it taking any steps to expel him. The judge refused an application by Mr. Peter Pain, QC for the TUC, for the TUC to be made a party to the interim proceedings.

Both cases were adjourned for a hearing date to be fixed.

Churches unite in campaign to escape from 'unjust' legislation Land Bill spares not even dead, Tories say

By Hugh Noyes Parliamentary Correspondent Westminster

Not even the dead would be spared the potential development powers of the Community Land Bill, Mr. Hugh Ross, Opposition spokesman on housing and land, said in the Commons yesterday. The next Conservative government would repeal the odious and oppressive measure as soon as it came to power.

Mr. Ross told MPs that consecrated ground and cemeteries with recent burials would not be safe from the Secretary of State if the Bill became law. The minister would be able to make regulations for the development of land.

Having taken away all our possessions, stripped us of our pensions, and sucked us dry with taxes, the Government was not even allowing our weary bodies to rest in peace. This must be the Government's last territorial development—our last six feet of earth," Mr. Ross said.

Under the Bill churches and charities wishing to rebuild in other areas would have to sell their old buildings at current value while being forced to buy at market value.

Mr. John Sisk, minister for planning, said that the Government was not prepared to accept the Bill, and the second deputation was sent because the Government's reply was considered unsatisfactory.

Dr. Ellison said Mr. Wilson had been sympathetic, and the Government appeared to be moving towards recognition of the churches' special case. The campaign is designed to draw the attention of church members and the public generally to a severe, possibly unintended, consequence of the Bill, that mentioned by Mr. Ross yesterday.

Mr. Derek Pattinson, secretary general of the General Synod of the Church of England, said the churches had no quarrel with the main principle of the Bill, the bringing into public ownership of land due for development, and hence the collection of the profits from development for the common good.

They fear, however, that the churches will become inadvertent casualties of government policy. Land, developed or undeveloped, is their principal physical asset. By judicious sale of unused or underdeveloped land, they have been able to finance a big redeployment of their resources since the war, out of urban centres and into the suburbs.

The machinery of the Bill is complicated, and its impact on the churches not immediately obvious. The Bill proposes that land due for redevelopment should be purchased by the local authority at "current use value", the market value of the land and any property on it.

Tories issue urgent appeal for funds

By George Clark Political Correspondent

The extent of the financial crisis that has forced Conservative Party managers to a rigorous economics was closed last night when Lord Thorneycroft, the party's chairman, appealed urgently for increased contributions.

"To run the party organization we need, with a full range of modern services and a full effort, in the critical area we have to raise our income from £1m to £3m a year at prices," he said.

His appeal follows a statement by the party treasurer Lord Chelmer and Lord Down, which showed seriously deteriorated financial position. In the year up to March 31 last, estimated cash reserves were £585,000 compared with £1,865,000 previous year.

Even after the economies treasurers estimate that to run the party's services "at the present inadequate level" would cost about £1.9m in coming year.

Lord Thorneycroft says in appeal: "That the party is urgently needs to adopt methods in communications other than the old-fashioned approach to the election."

"We cannot run with a minimum efficiency, plan for and build up long-term support on a basis of successive appeals. We need a substantial improvement in our income for our supporters."

A sum of £2.5m a year needed to run an improved extended organization and further £500,000 a year to go up a fighting fund for general elections.

The treasurer's statement closed that:

For the year ended March 1975, expenditure was approximately £2.5m but that included general election cost. Income including the October election was £1,865,000. Preliminary figures, subject to audit, give the following position March 31:

Cash and reserves	£585,000
Income for year	1,585,000
Less expenditure	2,900,000
Appreciation of investments	550,000
Estimated cash and reserves	585,000

NUJ chief regrets conference line

By Raymond Perman Labour Staff

Mr. Kenneth Morgan, general secretary of the National Union of Journalists, last night expressed regret about the union's conference decision last week which overturned the leadership's policy on closed shop and a charter of press freedom.

"At this moment I am not at the point of resigning, but I have made it clear that I am unhappy at some of the policy decisions which were taken at the annual delegate meeting," he said.

Mr. Morgan took a strong personal line during the debate on the Government's proposal to reinstate the legal position of the closed shop by pressing for a voluntary agreement between proprietors, editors and journalists on safeguards for the freedom of opinion.

In a statement yesterday he said that the conference decisions were an obvious embarrassment to the union leadership, but he told me that he did not intend to abandon the closed shop and freedom issues while the Trades Union and Labour Relations (Amendment) Bill was still going through Parliament. The statement said:

Much more important is the danger that the decisions may provoke a reaction from politicians leading to the confirmation of Lord Goodman's amendments to the Bill when it comes back to the House of Commons. If that is to happen we would be left with a specialized law pointed at the NUJ and trying to deal with industrial relations in newspaper editorial departments. It would not work any more than the Industrial Relations Act worked.

The statement said Mr. Morgan regretted the decision to require editors to join the union and the very narrow decision not to cooperate in negotiating a code of press freedom. It added:

MPs press for review of foreign aid cut

By Our Political Staff

A large group of Labour backbenchers are pressing the Government to reconsider its Budget proposal to reduce overseas aid by £20m.

Seventy-one have signed an early-day motion requesting the Chancellor to reconsider the proposal, which the group says it is unable to support.

The signatories are confident that with Conservative Opposition support the Government will have to withdraw the proposal or face defeat.

Power men's leaders reject pay offer

By Our Labour Editor

Union leaders of 28,000 power station engineers last night rejected an Electricity Council pay offer that would have given increases of between 20 and 31 per cent. The leaders would consider holding a strike ballot.

The Electrical Power Engineers' Association wants rises of 31 per cent all round, to maintain differentials over manual workers in the electricity supply industry, who received increases of the order of 10 per cent this month. Members of the power engineers' association benefited from the wage reconstruction agreement last October, which raised salaries by a tenth to a scale ranging from £2,425 to £6,600.

Railway hearing: The arbitration hearing into the railwaymen's claim for 30 per cent begins in public on Monday. Dr. William McCarthy, of Nuffield College, Oxford, the chairman of the Arbitration Tribunal will be under great pressure to reach a conclusion quickly. The National

Table with 2 columns: Item, Amount. Rows include Cash and reserves, Income for year, Less expenditure, Appreciation of investments, Estimated cash and reserves.

Boy killed while playing with lift

Albert Guber, aged 13, was crushed to death after falling away from school to play in a lift in a block of flats near his home in Preston Road, Poplar, east London, yesterday.

He climbed on top of the lift and was operating it by a control button when the fall the police believe. His body was found by four children between the lift and the shaft wall on the fifth floor of the flats in Robin Hood Gardens.

Newmarket racing despite pickets

From Martin Buckerby Newmarket

Races at the Newmarket spring meeting will go ahead tomorrow despite the strike by most of the town's stable lads, said Captain Nicholas Lees, clerk of the course, said yesterday.

The stable lads, who begin their strike for higher pay today, have gained support from some union staff at the racecourse, but Captain Lees said that would not stop the races, which include the 1,000 Guineas tomorrow and the 2,000 Guineas on Saturday.

The pay claim is being made by about six hundred lads belonging to the Transport and General Workers' Union. The union says they represent 90 per cent of the stable lads. They are seeking an increase of 44.7 per cent, or about 12 per cent, but the trainers offer them only an extra £3 and have refused to go to arbitration.

The strike has been declared official by the union, and the lads will picket the entrances and exits to the racecourse throughout the three-day meeting. Mr. Samuel Horncastle, the union's district officer, said the union would expect union workers to observe the picket lines. Transport Union members include horse-box drivers.

The technicians who operate the photo-finish equipment at the course are members of the Association of Allied Technicians, and they have agreed fully to back the stable lads.

Police leave today with Stonehouse warrant

Continued from page 1

Sheila Buckley, his political secretary, was jointly charged with him with conspiring to defraud shareholders of Export Promotions and Consultancy Services Ltd, a former Stonehouse company, now in liquidation.

Mr. Stonehouse faces 21 charges in all, involving fraud, forgery and theft, and Mrs. Buckley faces six charges.

About 70 witnesses yesterday signed depositions before Sir Frank Milton, as part of the ex-parte application by the Director of Public Prosecutions for the extradition of the two.

Among witnesses was Mrs. Della McBride, who refused to comment afterwards.

Mr. McBride, aged 63, was seriously ill with heart trouble when Mr. Stonehouse's fake application for a passport was submitted last July.

Other witnesses included Mr. James Charlton, who took over the chairmanship of London Capital Group after Mr. Stonehouse's disappearance, and the whose names Mr. Stonehouse also made a passport application.

Extradition proceedings are expected to start in Melbourne on May 5. It is not known how long Mr. Etheridge will remain there. It is understood that the Australian police have been told of the extra charges, though neither Mr. Stonehouse nor Mrs. Buckley will be charged until Monday.

The insurance policies taken out by Mr. Stonehouse last year were from Canada Life Insurance Company, for £25,000; Norwich Union Life Assurance, for £25,000; Phoenix Assurance, for £25,000; Yorkshire Life Assurance, for £20,000; and the Royal Insurance Company, for £30,000.

Mr. Stonehouse, against whom only provisional warrants for their arrest had been issued until yesterday, have been granted bail by the Melbourne court. Until yesterday Mrs. Buckley had faced five charges of theft

Union demands state control of newspapers

By Our Labour Staff

Nationalization of newspapers, including buildings, plant and machinery, and the means of distribution, is demanded by the National and Local Government Officers' Association (NALGO) in its evidence to the Royal Commission on the Press, published today.

Without a fundamental change in the method of financing newspapers there will be little improvement in content and objectivity, the union says.

The union's evidence is a 17-page document, which says that the ownership of newspapers and concentration of ownership mean that the extent to which the community is involved is minimal.

NALGO wants to see advertising revenue from all newspapers pooled. It would then be distributed under the guidance of an "Independent Press Authority" to groups granted franchises to produce newspapers.

Professor says UK is on a disaster course

Britain is on course towards disaster and accelerating Professor Hugh Clegg, Professor of Industrial Relations at Warwick University, said yesterday.

Unless we changed course we risked finding ourselves at the mercy of some cheap dictatorship, he told a London conference organized by the Institute of Personnel Management.

Professor Clegg, formerly a member of the National Board for Prices and Incomes and now a member of the council of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service, said: "I think disaster is the destruction of the democratic and civilized way of life in this country by the continual rending of competitive greed at the fabric of society."

The trouble was being fostered, encouraged and forced on its way "by a leadership too incompetent or too lacking in resolution to provide the conditions in which we can avoid... finding ourselves at the mercy of some cheap dictatorship, whether of the left or right."

There were few instances of countries surviving Britain's rate of inflation without serious action. It had not happened in a country with the traditions and stability and the political and social reserves Britain has. In those circumstances it was a reasonable bet that if those resources were mobilized people might cope.

Professor Clegg continued: "What we need above all in tackling this problem is resolution, which must start with resolution on the part of the Government and the trade unions."

He dismissed what he termed the growing subversive effort of the communists in British industry and trade unions as a cause of the troubles.

Direct-grant schools must decide

Mr. Prentice, Secretary of State for Education and Science, has promised to head teachers of the 174 direct grant schools in England a Wales that he will be humane as possible. But every school is to be asked to "start few days when we cooperate in the comprehensive system... by the local education authority, or better independent."

Birkenhead School yesterday announced its intention to become independent of the direct grant, worth £25,000 annually, is withdrawn.

Advertisement for St. George's Chapel Windsor 1475-1975. Includes an image of the chapel and a key. Text describes the 500th Anniversary and the key's significance.

Continued from page 1. The five new charges against Mr. Stonehouse are: 1. Dishonestly obtaining on November 20, 1974, from the Canada Life Assurance Company the sum of £25,000 by fabricating evidence from which his death would be presumed, and by falsely pretending that death benefit was payable by the insurers. The policy was started on July 27, 1974.

On November 20, 1974, dishonestly trying to obtain from Phoenix Assurance Ltd the sum of £25,000 by fabricating evidence from which his death would be presumed, and by falsely pretending that death benefit was payable by the insurers. The policy was started on July 27, 1974.

On November 20, 1974, dishonestly trying to obtain from the Royal Assurance Company by deception the sum of £50,000 by fabricating evidence from which his death would be presumed, and by falsely pretending that death benefit was payable by the insurers. That policy was begun on September 18, 1974.

Another charge, which Mr. Stonehouse faces jointly with Mrs. Buckley, alleges that between May 1 and December 25, 1974, at 26 Dover Street, London, and elsewhere, they conspired together to defraud the creditors of Export Promotions and Consultancy Services Ltd.

Weather forecast and recordings

Table with weather forecasts for various regions (London, Edinburgh, Glasgow, etc.) and a table of weather recordings for various locations.

53 waste tips may be toxic

Of 3,000 waste tips in England and Wales surveyed by the Institute of Geological Sciences, the Department of Environment, 53 may contain toxic material.

Operating restrictions have been imposed on 27 of these tips, because of the risk to health and the environment. Nine have been closed, because capacity was exhausted and 27 are under surveillance by local authorities.

13 hurt in crash

A motor cyclist, a car driver and 11 passengers in a double-decker bus were hurt yesterday when an articulated lorry overturned in Lewes, Brighton. The motor cyclist sustained a head injury.

Advertisement for TIME magazine. Includes the title 'TIME' and text about Portugal, U.S. slump, and Rome's wrecking crew.



## NEWS

## Ch of secret ids urged in a Colwell study

can before we make decisions about the placement of children", Mr Denis Allen, director of social services for East Sussex, said yesterday. "That is the overriding consideration. It overrides considerations of personal privacy and professional ethics."

The panel was set up by East Sussex to consider the implications of the official inquiry report on the Colwell case. It has clearly accepted many of the criticisms made by the official report, particularly those related to the lack of communication between the various professionals and others in contact with the child.

Many of the 71 recommendations in the report concern improving communication between social workers, who are seen to have the primary responsibility, and other professionals including teachers, education welfare officers, doctors, the police and voluntary agencies. Particular emphasis is placed on the role of teachers who, the study suggests, should have information on the symptoms of battering included in their training.

The report was accepted yesterday by East Sussex policy and resources committee, although the recommendations will cost an extra £250,000 a year on the social services budget. A contingency fund is available for the immediate costs, which are likely to involve employing more social workers and clerical staff to support them. Action has already been taken to begin employing more clerical staff and to improve telephones.

## Battering of babies 'possible by anyone'

Everyone is a potential baby-batterer, Dr Stephen Herman, consultant paediatrician at the Central Middlesex Hospital, told a one-day seminar on child abuse, held at Brent Town Hall, London, yesterday.

"Child abuse is a sign of stress which is intolerable," he said. "There is not one of us who, given enough stress, could not break down and produce the same results."

He estimated that 300 children died each year in the United Kingdom from battering. Others were permanently injured.

Police Supt James Donald criticized the social services for what he contended was a lack of co-operation in cases of child-battering. He said there were 21 cases of battered babies in the Brent area in the past six months, but the police were told of only nine.

Mrs A. Dawar, a nursing officer, said the welfare services should do more to prepare parents for the emotional impact of parenthood and its consequences. More should also be done to protect and help one-parent families because many cases of battering were caused by unwanted pregnancies.

Mrs Sally Beer, a senior social worker in Wandsworth, London, urged authorities to take a more conscientious approach towards families reaching crisis point. Visiting them once a fortnight was not enough.

Mr Harry Whalley, director of social services in Brent, said there was little understanding by the public or media of the difficult social problems involved in child-care.



Red deer stags emerging from a Scottish sea loch, Loch a' Chàirn Bhàin, Sutherland, after a swim, a Highland happening not often seen or photographed.

## Big rise in councils' debts for housing

By Our Planning Reporter

District authorities' accumulated housing debts rose from just over £7,000m in March, 1970, to nearly £9,000m in March, 1975, and had since shown further "very substantial" increases, Mr N. P. Henworth, Croydon's director of finance and one of Britain's leading experts on housing costs, said yesterday. He was speaking at a conference in London organized by the Institute for Fiscal Studies.

Councils' borrowing requirements for housing far overshadowed those for any other purpose, he said. Most of the housing debt was financed at high interest rates, and if the economic situation worsened the difficulties of raising capital would jeopardize future programmes.

Mr Crosland, Secretary of State for the Environment, who recently established a housing finance advisory group, had promised to make a statement to the conference but was prevented by illness from doing so. Tomorrow he and Mr Fresson, Minister for Housing, will hear complaints by tenants' and residents' associations from 15 London boroughs over last month's drastic cuts in expenditure on improving older homes.

Mr Crosland's main quarrel is with authorities, mostly outside London, that have committed resources to non-urgent projects such as improvements to council estates built between the wars. But some London boroughs, such as Camden and Islington, are considered to have undertaken programmes far beyond their resources.

## How one man's bath cost ratepayers £300

By Christopher Warman  
Local Government  
Correspondent

Liverpool City Council spent £15,000 a year to run a bath house used just once a week by a single Chinese.

Each time he had a bath it cost the ratepayers about £300, and a staff of four or five was employed to run the bath house. So the Liberals, who had been closely examining expenditure by the council, which they control, closed it.

That was how the Liberals tackled wasteful spending Mr John Pardoe, Liberal Party spokesman on economic affairs, said in London yesterday, when Mr William Smyth, leader of Liverpool Liberal Party, had outlined the reasons for closing the bath house.

Mr Pardoe said the Liverpool Liberals were leading the fight to cut public expenditure.

The council this year achieved the almost impossible by reducing the rates, while rates in the other metropolitan districts rose by an average of 22 per cent.

In its financial appraisal, a special committee of the council found a laundry in Liverpool was

such that it would have been cheaper to give each customer £2 to go to a launderette. In other cases, the income from items such as swimming pool entry fees and charges for home helps was almost wiped out by the cost of administration, and for efficiency these charges were ended.

Liverpool's budget for the present year increased, but was offset by the Government's rate-support grant. The result was a reduction in the rates.

"But despite the council's passion for efficiency and cost-cutting, it has not reduced the quality of essential services. The social services budget, for example, has been increased by 7 per cent in real terms," Mr Pardoe said.

He was speaking with leaders of the Liverpool Liberals, and used them as a reminder of the quality of essential services. The social services budget, for example, has been increased by 7 per cent in real terms, Mr Pardoe said.

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## Criticism of Mr Silkin malicious, MPs told

By Our Parliamentary Staff

An article in *The Times* yesterday by Bernard Levin about Mr Silkin, the Attorney General, and the Clay Cross councillors, was "malicious, abusive and not directed to the arguments," Mr Kaufman, Under-Secretary, Environment, said yesterday during discussions on the Housing Finance (Special Provisions) Bill in committee.

Bernard Levin said in his article that Mr Silkin, after making clear that he could never countenance the "legal and constitutional outrage" of an Indemnity Bill for the defaulting council, had then been willing to countenance such a measure.

When the Bill was introduced Mr Silkin had two choices: to stand by his advice and resign, or the course he adopted, to try to find precedents.

His first "pseudo-precedent" (the article said) concerned legislation that did not apply to councillors who went on defying the law. The second concerned an executive action based on existing powers.

The article referred to the "terrible consequences" of the "landmark declaration" that the

people "who held the right party card".

The matter was raised yesterday by Mr Percival, an opposition spokesman on law, who said it was a good thing Mr Levin had exposed much of the falsity of Mr Silkin's argument based upon precedents, but he had missed the real point, which was that Mr Silkin was now dealing with a different question from the one put to him by the Labour Party in 1972.

Mr Silkin was quite right to make that point, where he was wrong was in giving a different argument to the questions before the committee.

Mr Kaufman said that in differing with the government Mr Percival had done so honestly.

"We are grateful to Mr Percival for repudiating and disassociating himself from the mindless abuse to which Mr Silkin has been subjected and the way he repudiated those parts of this article which were clearly malicious, abusive and not directed to the arguments," Mr Kaufman added that Mr Raison, Opposition spokesman on the environment, "was unfairly attacked in the article, having made his own position

## er Jaguar 3.4 model revived

rk pondent

of the prestige saloon range, use to the fuel injected today by

The 3.4 litre brought back per and more at the bottom the 12-cylinder engine from car injection.

finder unit was he 3.4, which on eight years present Jaguar as a claimed a of 19 to 23 1100 (18 to 20 natic transmits with 14 to 19 at car in the fire automatic re cars are milar to the s, but to keep they will have

cloth instead of leather upholstery, and manually operated windows and door locks. Prices start at £4,795, £340 less than the 4.2 litre series. There is also a 3.4 Daimler Sovereign at £4,995.

Fuel injection will eventually be a standard feature on all 5.3 litre 12-cylinder cars. It is being fitted initially to the two-door coupe models and will be available on four-door cars later this year. The extra power has been used to give more torque through the gears, improving both performance and fuel economy.

Drivers' complaints: The long delays in settling motorists' complaints against garages is criticized in the first annual report of the Council for Vehicle Servicing and Repair, the annual report of the garage standards. It found that on average 62 weeks elapsed between the receipt of a com-

## School courses unfair to girls, report says

By a Staff Reporter

A detailed picture of unfairness towards girls, which British schools will soon be legally obliged to eliminate, emerges from a government-instituted survey published today. Mr Prentice, Secretary of State for Education and Science, has said that secondary schools will have to reform themselves.

The report's main finding is that curricular patterns in secondary schools, based on traditional assumptions and accepted by most teachers, parents and pupils, deprive girls of real choice.

Middle schools, which separate girls for crafts and games, do not seem to deprive them of

later opportunities, the report says. Mixed opportunities seem to be increasing.

But in secondary schools, tradition hardens into specific academic directions. In almost all mixed schools girls are separated for some classes, but hardly ever for educational reasons. Heads say it is because of habit, resources or convenience, but the report points to three inescapable educational consequences:

At 13, 14s and girls often have no choice of courses. Technical drawing, for example, which can lead to engineering careers, was available at one sample school, Department of Education inspectors found, only to those who had

already done metalwork. In the first three years, only boys did metalwork, while girls did home economics and needlework. Twenty-seven per cent of English mixed schools had such preemptive curricular patterns.

Later, in fourth or fifth forms, physics and chemistry emerged strikingly as boys' subjects, and modern languages as girls'. Boys seemed to have poorer opportunities in art and music than girls.

Finally, composite courses, optional courses and those linked with further education colleges all suggested some restricted opportunity for girls.

Curricular Differences for Boys and Girls Education Survey 21. (Stationery Office, 41p.)

## No mixed changing if sex discrimination ends

By Our Parliamentary Staff

"We are not really fighting to have men in women's changing rooms," Mr Fraser, Under-Secretary of State for Employment, said yesterday, as he outlined the limits of the Sex Discrimination Bill.

Facing amendments from women Labour MPs on the Bill's committee stage, directed at eliminating "sexist" restrictions, Mr Fraser won sympathy from all sides for pointing out the embarrassing hypothetical situations that could arise.

Women trying on corsets at Harrods might reasonably object to a male assistant, he said. Men could fairly object to female lavatory attendants.

The Bill allowed exemption: where "decency and privacy" needed to be preserved, involving, for example, physical contact between the sexes or undressing. Exemptions also involved the use of sanitary facilities.

He said that if justification for such exemptions was felt to have gone, Parliament could remove them.

## Protest at plans to close teacher training college

By Tim Devlin  
Education Correspondent

A deputation including five Labour MPs will meet Government representatives this afternoon to try to save Darlington College of Education, one of 20 teacher training colleges in England and Wales threatened with closure.

The college is also being defended by Lord Butler of Saffron Walden, architect of the 1944 Education Act, who will challenge in the Lords the Government's teacher training

policy, and by Lord Belstead, a former Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Education and Science. Both have written to Mr Prentice, Secretary of State for Education and Science, protesting about the plan to close the college.

Mr Alan Earl, a lecturer at the college, has organized the campaign to save it. He said the case for its retention on geographical and educational grounds was unassailable.

The Government proposes to make this year's intake in September the last.

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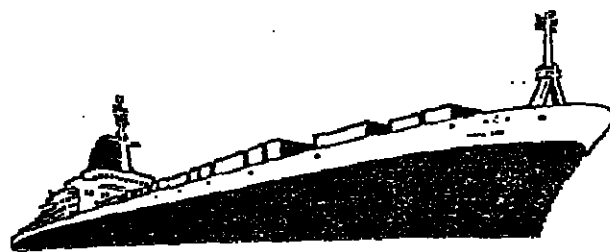
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## HOME NEWS

## Conference to review married women doctors' opportunities

By a Staff Reporter

Women doctors who are married and want to return to the National Health Service ought to have more done for them, Mrs Castle, Secretary of State for Social Services, told the Commons yesterday. She said she was calling a conference in July with interested parties to review the matter, especially the question of part-time work.

Another call for better opportunities for women came yesterday from a working party set up by the National and Local Government Officers' Association (NALGO). Low pay rates should be distinguished by (flat-rate) claims, it recommended, and the Abortion (Amendment) Bill should be fought as a threat to women's freedom.

The working party called for better access to training for women; campaigns for employers to have child-care facilities; the introduction of flexible working patterns; equal pension benefits; flexible retirement at 60 for both sexes; and the tightening of the Sex Discrimination Bill to allow "reverse discrimination" in favour of women.

Mrs Castle told the Commons that she was not satisfied with what had been done for married women doctors so far, although the Government had taken some steps to encourage their employment.

The conference, representing

the Government, medical bodies and women doctors, would discuss the difficulty of reconciling family and professional duties.

Mrs Miller, Labour MP for Ilford, North, a member of the committee considering the Government's discrimination Bill, complained that the British Medical Association, which was supposed to represent women doctors, had done nothing to make use of their talent. It "apparently prefers doctors from overseas, with language problems of which we are all well aware, while ignoring women doctors".

Inadequate training: Arrangements for training people for top-level management in the health service are inadequate, according to a report published yesterday by the Business Graduates' Association (our Medical Reporter writes). The association represents about 2,000 managers and businessmen with postgraduate degrees in management.

The report suggests that most of the senior administrative, financial, medical, nursing, scientific and works staff in the service should be offered a master's degree course in health service administration.

Initially, two centres should be set up at a cost of about £120,000, should be based in a recognized university business school and working in close association with a medical school, a graduate school of nursing and a school of social administration.

## University drops hall plan

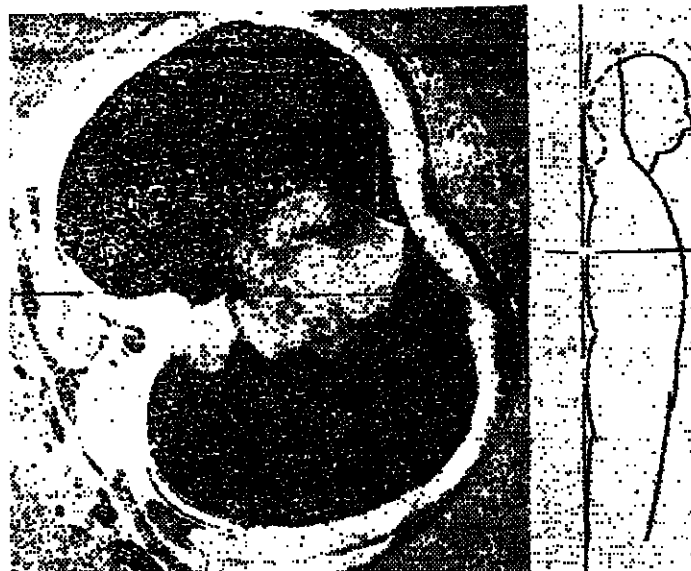
From a Staff Reporter

Edinburgh University has abandoned a scheme to use a large, domed quadrangle in its new student centre as an assembly hall because the dome is made of Oroglass, the material that featured in the Summerland fire in the Isle of Man. Instead, the students will launch an appeal to provide an

additional hall for concerts, dances and large meetings.

The university said yesterday: "Since the fire the dome has been dropped."

The area beneath the dome will now be for "circulation" between the various rooms and departments at the centre. The university and the insurers are confident that the dome is not a fire hazard.



X-ray invention. The above photograph showing heart and lungs, ribcage and spine was produced by EMI's "whole-body scanner". It enables detailed pictures to be made of any organ without the use of chemicals, dyes and photographic film as in present X-ray techniques. In the drawing (right) the horizontal line indicates the section shown.

## Man on trial for murder of girl nine years ago

A trial for a murder committed nearly nine years ago should not be a trial of memory, Mr Justice Mars-Jones said at Chester Crown Court yesterday. William Ian Copeland, aged 33, of Batworth Park House, Arundel, Sussex, pleaded not guilty to the murder on August 14, 1966, of Jane Elizabeth Taylor, aged 10, at Mobblerley, Cheshire.

The judge refused a defence application for a postponement until June 16 and ruled that the trial should open on May 12. Mr Harry Kershaw, for the defence, who made the application for a postponement, said the police took hundreds, possibly thousands, of statements.

"One or two are important so far as the defence is concerned," he said. "The police had so far not provided names and addresses required by the defence, despite four or five requests."

## An answer costs £26

A government reply to a Commons question yesterday gave the estimated average cost of an oral answer to a parliamentary question as £26, and for a written answer £16.

## Prisoner 'put heart into serving sentence'

Mr Justice Caulfield said of a prisoner in the Court of Appeal yesterday: "If it is possible to put one's heart into serving a prison sentence, this man has." It was "an example of a successful sentence".

The court reduced by six months an 18-month sentence passed on Clive Wilshire at Wakefield Crown Court last December for burglary. The judge said Mr Wilshire, aged 30, a photographer, of Thornes Moor Avenue, Wakefield, west Yorkshire, had "gone far beyond what needed to be done in prison".

He "became a 'trusted' prisoner and volunteered for weekend community service building a swimming pool. When he received a £64 income tax rebate, he sent it to the Crown Court to help to repay £154 lost by victims of his offences."

## Shipyard men hurt

Five workers at Govan Shipbuilders' yard, Glasgow, were injured, three seriously, when they were struck by a mooring wire yesterday after the launching of a cargo-ship on the Clyde.

## EEC REFERENDUM

## Mr Heath chips at the 'myth mountain'

Mr Heath said last night that those opposed to the EEC had deliberately been engaged in building a "myth mountain".

The first myth was that Community membership put the Queen at risk, he said in Chelsea. "I say now that that suggestion is nonsense, total nonsense, and dangerous nonsense."

"Of the nine countries in the Community, five have monarchies. It just shows the kind of arguments that some, though not all, anti-Marketters are being forced to use."

Mr Heath said that the second myth was that the European Commission was a giant bureaucracy. The commission, covering more than 250 million people, employed fewer staff than the Scottish Office covering five million people, he said.

The third myth was that Community membership had put up the level of prices in Britain. "The real culprit for the rise in prices has been not the European Community but the explosion in world prices both of food and raw materials. What is more, thanks to membership of the EEC, the British housewife is actually paying less for certain key items in the shopping basket."

Another myth, Mr Heath said, was that if Britain were to withdraw, we could negotiate a new free trade arrangement within the Community. "Why should they make a new treaty with the British when they have torn up the last one?" he asked.

It was also suggested that the cost of membership was an intolerable burden on the British taxpayer, he said. That was not true, in the first two years of British membership our net contribution to the Community budget amounted to no more than £67m a year. That should be compared with the increase in public spending over the past year of £4,000m.

"This would allow us to join the Community 60 times a year, or more than once a week."

## Labour may face EEC revolt by staff at Transport House

By Michael Hatfield

Political Staff  
Labour Party policy-makers face a revolt by the party's headquarters staff if they decide at a meeting today to have a national campaign calling for Britain's withdrawal from the European Community.

Transport House staff met last night and agreed, by about 50 votes to 25, to support the statement by Mr Ronald Hayward, the party general secretary, that party members should have the right to dissent from the majority view.

There was strong opposition at the meeting to the possibility that the staff would have to support a national campaign favouring withdrawal when many of them shared the pro-EEC view. If the executive to decide on a national campaign against membership some of the staff feel that they should take leave of absence.

It was said that if the party machine was used in that way it might cause severe damage. Those who held the contrary view said they were employed by the party and that the national executive, as their employer, had the right to tell them what to do.

The staff also passed a resolution criticizing the press for the light in which it was portraying the Labour Party. The executive must today decide whether the party should run national rallies and whether specific instructions should be given to regional organizers, some of whom are known to have pro-EEC views, to organize anti-EEC campaigns within their regions. A further issue to be settled is whether party funds should be used to run the anti-EEC campaign.

Mr Prentice, the Secretary of State for Education and Science, who is not a member of the national executive, joined in the dispute last night when he said that the executive will make themselves look ridiculous if they commit party funds to the campaign for British withdrawal.

"It looks as though we may be treated to the absurd spectacle of the Labour Party campaigning against the policy of its own government," Mr Prentice told a meeting organized by the Britain in Europe Campaign, at Croydon. He added:

"This is not likely to have much effect on the referendum result, but it would clearly demonstrate a lack of comradeship within the executive for their colleagues in the Government. It would also be totally unfair to the large number of Labour Party members who take a positive view, and to those who under the conference block have no real indication of the views within the party."

Five junior ministers of whom one acted against the continued last night to the exception of a national campaign. They wrote to Mr Hayward pressing "our deep conviction" that the proposal to convene a special meeting of the national executive committee apparently designed to a party headquarters regional offices are likely to campaign unreservedly for British withdrawal.

The signatories were Mr. Grant, Parliamentary Secretary for Overseas Development; Bryan John, Minister for RAF; Mr. John Smith, Secretary for Energy; Arthur Davidson, Parliamentary Secretary, Law Officers' Department; and Mr. King, Lord Advocate. They wrote to Mr Hayward saying that a committee party funds, irrespective of sources, and of party of its views, campaign can only result in bitterness and discordance. Our aim, which we all avoid on this unique occasion, will cause confusion among workers whose loyalty is inevitably be increasingly su-

concession with the run-up to the referendum. Leaders of the pro-EEC in Europe organs preferred not to comment on theories fanciful; they it was a matter for Treasury.

At the Treasury there rule that no statement made about the movement sterling on the exchange. Treasury ministers deny there was any contrived action to achieve a de facto devaluation. The Government's policy to smooth out any fluctuations but basically the pound find its own level.

Experience shows the market looks ahead and discounts bad news before it comes, and if dealers feel things look gloomy, because the referendum and the various it causes, then Treasury would expect feeling to work itself out over a period of time. It would show in some sudden pain.

In fact, according to Henley, Chancellor of the exchequer, the high rate of inflation is more likely the cause of a fall in the value of the pound.

Mr Cyril Smith, Liberal for Rochdale, said at Warrington, London, last night: "It is the political advantage the European Community has over us. For the past thirty years Eurolit has remained largely peace."

The European Community has enabled countries like France and Germany to cooperate too if Britain withdraws now it simply sink deeper into the mire. The idea of the sovereignty of Parliament being affected by a load of codswallop. It does exist now, so how can it be affected?

## Snub for new trade union alliance

By Raymond Perman

Labour Staff

The Trade Union Alliance for Europe, due to be launched tomorrow as a counter to the campaign for a "No" vote in the referendum, was snubbed yesterday by the annual conference of the Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers (Usdaw).

Delegates meeting at Eastbourne rejected by 103,084 to 93,504 on a card vote an emergency resolution from the executive supporting the Government. They went on to pass another emergency proposal urging the union's 350,000 members to vote against membership.

Lord Allen of Fallowfield, general secretary of the union and one of the sponsors of the new pro-EEC alliance, was rebuffed for casting the block vote in favour of continuing membership at the special Labour Party conference on Saturday without a mandate from the membership.

Mr John Dilks, of Derby and Burton Co-op, who proposed the anti-EEC motion, said: "I only wish that the executive council had waited for a conference decision before it hastily, and I contend in an undemocratic manner, voted to vote in favour of the renegotiated treaty."

Lord Allen commented: "We cannot undo what was done at the Labour Party conference. What the delegation did was not undemocratic; it was in conformity with the 'power vested in them by the rules.' The decision will not affect his participation in the referendum campaign, which is on a personal basis. He added: "I intend to stump the country to explain my view that we can stay in the Common Market in the interests of a socialist Europe."

Mr Frere-Smith said that since the treaty of accession was signed in 1972 there had been an effective devaluation of the pound of 22 per cent, and it now appeared to members of his organization that the Government was proposing a further devaluation by withdrawing support for the pound on the market.

"This is the first time the Bank of England has withdrawn support for the pound since we joined the Common Market on January 1, 1973, and to us, it has a direct

## Reluctance to guard pour in poll run-up alleged

By George Clark

Political Correspondent

Mr Christopher Frere-Smith, chairman of the Get Britain Out campaign, said last night that opponents of British membership viewed with alarm the reluctance of the Government to protect sterling against speculators in the run-up to the referendum.

He claimed that "inspired information" indicated that the Government, through the Bank of England, was prepared to let the pound slide a further 5 per cent, ostensibly to help exports.

Mr Frere-Smith said that explanation could be accepted were it not for the fact that the threat of currency devaluation was used with success to put pressure on the Danes to vote for EEC membership in their referendum in 1972. The media had also reported moves against the pound after the Labour Party's decision on Saturday to campaign against Britain's continued membership.

He added: "These developments mean higher prices for our imported food and fuel and also frustrate business in quoting for contracts overseas. So, the Government is helping our economy to collapse. It is a deliberate move to let the pound slide further, because Britain buys more from abroad than she sells."

Mr Frere-Smith said that since the treaty of accession was signed in 1972 there had been an effective devaluation of the pound of 22 per cent, and it now appeared to members of his organization that the Government was proposing a further devaluation by withdrawing support for the pound on the market.

"This is the first time the Bank of England has withdrawn support for the pound since we joined the Common Market on January 1, 1973, and to us, it has a direct

## The down-to-earth research centre

The Electricity Council Research Centre has a general brief to develop new and improve existing electrical techniques. But it would be wrong to see that objective as merely to sell more electricity—most of the Centre's work is devoted to improving efficiency and conserving precious natural resources.



Battery electric vehicles produce no pollution, and are quiet in operation. The main problem is the size and weight of the batteries. The Research Centre has been working with the Chloride Group on a development programme centred on the sodium-sulphur cell. This type of battery can be made from more plentiful materials than those used in conventional lead-acid batteries. It can store five or six times the energy in the same volume and weighs only half as much. It is hoped to increase the capacity still further and to reduce production costs.

removal of materials from liquids by electrochemical methods. The idea of combining effluent treatment with the extraction of re-usable materials is an attractive one. As research continues, the list of materials which can be treated will get longer. Electrochemical methods are energy intensive, but if the materials recovered are scarcer than electricity it is worthwhile to the nation to extract them. Fuel conservation should not be considered in isolation from the conservation of resources generally.

Electrolysis can be extended to the production of finished materials from waste. Iron foil, for example, previously could only be made by rolling metal strip down to the required thickness. A research team has now devised a way of producing it directly from scrap—by electrolysis. The scrap is dissolved in acid and then electroplated out of the solution onto a rotating



drum, to form iron foil. This is over 99 per cent pure iron, dimensionally accurate, and free from blemishes.

There is no reason why this philosophy should not be extended to other production problems to give solutions which will save energy and other resources.

Already, a prototype battery has been demonstrated in a commercial vehicle, giving it a range of around 100 miles on one charge.

Over the past few years, much research has been done on the

Electricity does the nation a power of good



The Electricity Council, England and Wales.



Students and members of pro-European youth organizations taking in a torchlight procession for Europe in London last night.

## Disagreement also down on the farm

By Roger Berthoud

It is symptomatic of the confusion of the referendum debate that the National Farmers' Union should be wholeheartedly in favour of Britain's remaining in the Community, while the National Union of Agricultural Workers heartily advocates withdrawal.

The NFU is not so much a union as an association embracing 140,000 of the country's 200,000 or so full-time farmers (both owners and tenants). When 120 members of its council debated the EEC issue last month, only two voted against continued membership. There were four or five abstentions.

The farm workers' union has about 90,000 members: roughly a third of the total labour force, but more than half of the estimated 145,000 full-time employees. The union first came out against membership in 1970, and its general secretary, Mr. Reginald Bostin, reiterated its opposition at last Saturday's special Labour Party conference in London.

His union, he explains, remains convinced that the old British system of financing agriculture, under which the Government made up the difference to the farmer when prices

fell below an agreed level, was more sophisticated and suitable for this country than the EEC system of guaranteed prices, involving the buying up of surplus stocks when farm prices fall below predetermined levels, thus depriving consumers of the benefit of periodic gluts. The common agricultural policy (CAP), his union believes, tends to support what would be regarded in Britain as non-viable units and to encourage inefficiency. It also involves unacceptable levies on imports from non-member countries.

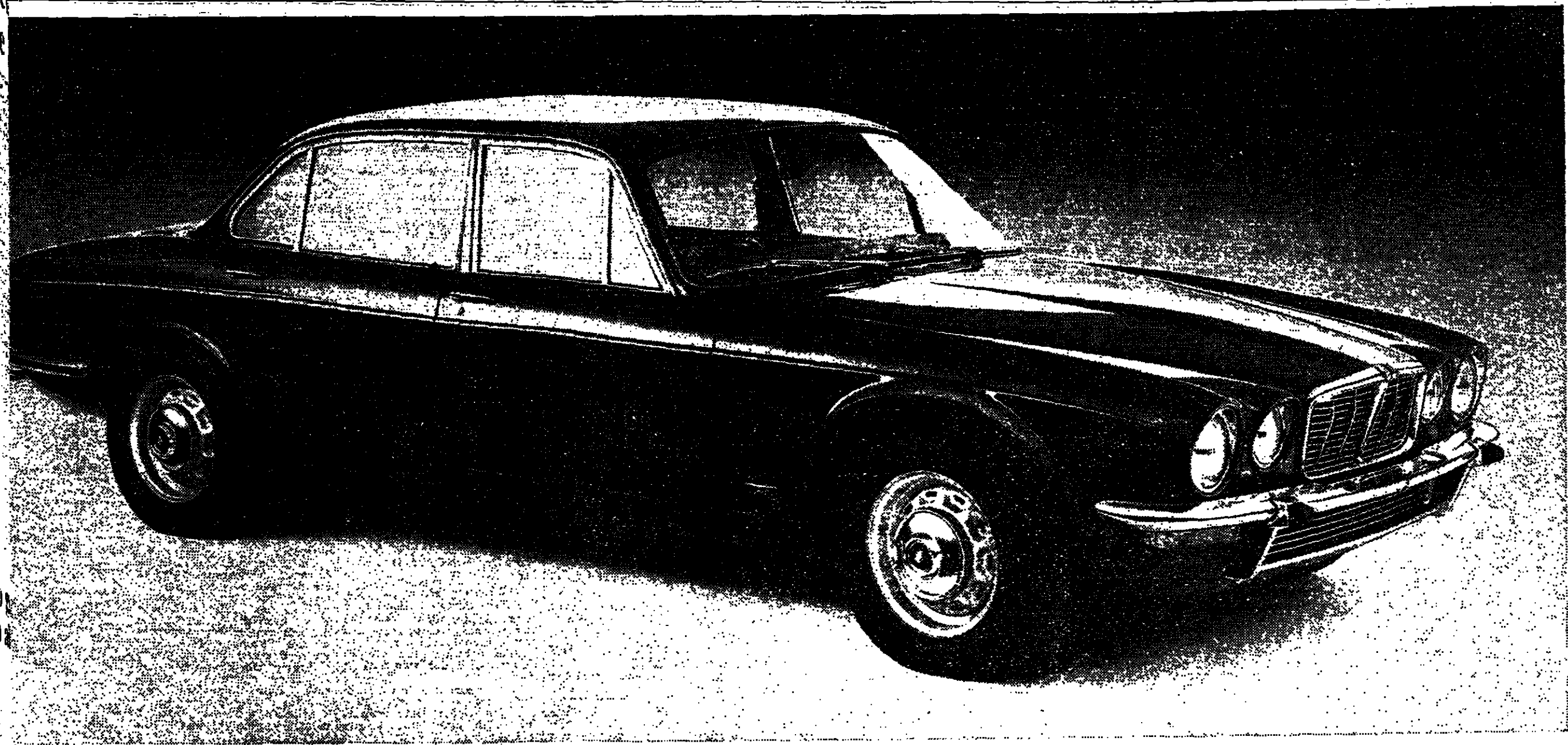
Sir Henry Plumb, president of the NFU, advances an equally convincing set of reasons to explain why he and a majority of his colleagues favour continued membership. He told me:

"The farmers are also conscious that on the continent food production and those involved in it have historically been given a higher priority than in Britain. Not that it has been all

milk and honey in the tw of EEC membership. Henry has found on a mixed farm of 500 ac Warwickshire, farmed by help of six pro-EEC workers. So far, the dairy sector has not been greatly affected by membership, since the British system of guaranteed prices is not due to be out till 1978. But the beef was seriously upset last year when for several months government fell below the EEC price of buying up into intervention area. British stock seem to be able when market prices fall. In the cereal sector, I were still able to benefit the exceptionally high prices, and seem likely to per whatever happens."

Sir Henry sees some reason for British farmers' inevitable within the EEC. If the British are to be the market abroad, he I they must become less dependent and more aggressive in approach. In sectors ill and cereals, he believes I compete without fear. S and remunerative return the target, and the CAP, covered by world arrangements, seems to I best hope of achieving I





## The new XJ3.4.

### For those who are attracted to three-litre motoring, but are even more attracted to a Jaguar.

It's undeniable that, today, many motorists are attracted to three-litre motoring. For its combination of performance and economy.

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So why not a car with the best of both worlds?

You see the answer above: the XJ 3.4. As you'll discover, it has the features you expect in a Jaguar.

Which is to say, of course, that it offers a good deal more than most other cars in the three-litre class.

#### The engine is only part of our story.

The engine in the XJ 3.4 is a new version of the famous XJ series. It has six cylinders, twin-overhead camshafts, a capacity of 3,442 c.c. and produces 161 brake horse-power (DIN).

This is more than sufficient to take the manual XJ 3.4 from 0-60 in 10.9 seconds. And to give the car a top speed of about 117 mph.

Depending on choice of transmission and your driving habits, it will also give fuel consumption in the region of 18 to 23 mpg. (An extremely competitive figure when you compare it with other cars in the three-litre class.)

As with all Jaguar engines, every 3.4 is individually bench-tested before being installed in the car.

The method of installation is worthy of note.

First, the engine is mounted on rubber insulating bushes. Then, the engine and bushes are mounted on a separate sub-frame, which is also insulated by rubber bushes.

This may sound a little complicated. And it is.

But Jaguar have always preferred to eliminate noise through advanced engineering, rather than through the more common practice of trying to cover up the noise with mammoth amounts of sound-deadening material.

Hence our well-earned reputation for pace and quiet.

#### On either side of the engine, safety.

To either side of the 3.4 engine is another well-known Jaguar feature: self-adjusting, servo-assisted, ventilated disc brakes.

These discs, together with those at the rear, are deservedly well-known for their stopping power.

They are helped, of course, by the unique low profile, water-dispersant Dunlop tyres, which were designed as an integral part of the XJ's suspension.

Also built into the suspension is Jaguar's sensitive anti-dive geometry. This keeps the 3.4 on an even keel even under the most severe emergency braking. (A consoling thought given the chaos and confusion of today's roads.)

Equally consoling is yet another feature not found on lesser cars: power-assisted rack-and-pinion steering.

Some cars have power steering. Others have rack-and-pinion steering.

The XJ has both.

#### All the information an intelligent driver needs.

The instrument panel of the 3.4 contains all the information an intelligent driver needs.

Seven dials. Six warning lights. Plus an array of ergonomic switches for, amongst other things: the two-speed wipers. The rear window heating. The fuel tank change-over. The electrically-operated windscreen washer. The heating and ventilation fans and temperature control.

In fact, the fascia of the XJ 3.4 is exactly the same as the fascia found on the more expensive XJ 6. As are most of the other features that you'll find on the new XJ 3.4.

#### Reclining seats, wood and really effective sound proofing.

The seats of the XJ 3.4, both front and rear, are covered with a sumptuous pleated cloth. And, as you'd expect, both the front seats and the steering column are adjustable.

The instrument panel is covered with hand-selected and hand-matched veneers.

Whilst underfoot is more than 50 square feet of carpets and underlay.

Together with the underseal and the sophisticated insulation of engine and suspension, they make the XJ 3.4 one of the most effectively sound-proofed cars on the road.

#### Behind the rear seats, something more than an empty space.

The boot of the XJ 3.4 is 17 cu. ft. large. Which is enormous by any standards.

On either side of the boot, are the XJ's twin fuel tanks with twin electric fuel pumps.

Beneath the boot, a spare wheel, jack, wheel-brace and a comprehensive tool kit containing everything from screwdrivers to a tyre pressure gauge.

Would you expect less?

#### After the second road test, the seventh coat of paint.

The engine, passenger compartment and boot are surrounded by the famous XJ body and coachwork.

The body is as functional as it is attractive.

It has been built for progressive deformation to give maximum passenger protection in an accident.

And the slim but strong roof pillars give excellent all-round visibility.

The coachwork has been subjected to rust inhibitors and seven coats of paint. The last coat being applied only after the second pre-delivery road-test.

(How else would we know if any fault found on the first road test had been removed unless we tested twice?)

That, in a very large nutshell, is the new XJ 3.4.

When you compare it with the prices and features of other three-litre cars, we think you'll find that Jaguar has another landmark in value.

And three-litre motoring has a new standard.



**It's a long way down to second best.**

XJ3.4 saloon £4,794.66, XJ4.2 saloon £5,136.30, XJ4.2 coupé £5,480.28, XJ12L saloon (carburettor model, automatic) £5,959.98, XJ5.3 coupé (fuel injection model, automatic) £6,850.35. Prices include VAT and car tax.



## WEST EUROPE

# Portuguese Socialists defend their rivals in skirmish over May Day celebrations

From Nicholas Ashford  
Lisbon, April 29

In the first outbreak of political skirmishing since Friday's Constituent Assembly elections, Portugal's powerful Socialist Party today came to the defence of its social democratic rival, the Popular Democratic Party (PPD), in a dispute involving the country's Communist-dominated trade union confederation.

The confederation, known as Intersindical, announced that the PPD was not being asked to take part in a huge May Day rally which is being held in Lisbon on Thursday because the party "did not represent the interests of the workers".

However, the Communist Party and three other left-wing parties, all of which polled far fewer votes than the PPD, have been invited to attend.

The Socialists, who emerged as clear winners in the elections, said they would not tolerate any move to exclude the PPD from the Labour Day celebrations. Dr Mario Soares, the Socialist leader, said that if the PPD, which won over 26 per cent of the votes, did not represent at least a section of the working class, then Portugal must have an abnormally large bourgeoisie.

For its part the PPD has called out its supporters, saying that May Day should not be used as an excuse to mask the significance of the popular vote. Thursday's rally will be

attended by President Costa Gomes, Brigadier Gonçalves, the Prime Minister, members of the ruling Supreme Revolutionary Council, and party and trade union leaders.

According to the official result the Socialist Party will hold 115 of the 247 seats in the new Assembly with the PPD in second place holding 80 seats. The Communist Party will have only 30 seats and its ally, the Portuguese Democratic Movement (MDP) five. The conservative Centre Democratic Social Party has won 16 seats, considerably fewer than it had hoped, and the extreme left Popular Democratic Union caused some surprise by taking one of Lisbon's 55 seats.

The four ministers without portfolio who represent the four political parties in the provisional Government must now decide whether they intend to continue in their cabinet posts or take up their seats as deputies. Under the country's electoral law, it is not possible to be both a member of the Assembly and of the Government.

The ministers are Dr Soares, Socialist and one PPD, and to Alvaro Cunhal (Communist) and Dr Pereira de Moura (MDP). This rule also applies to two other ministers, one Socialist and one PPD, and to two state secretaries. All are expected to remain in the Government.

Major Costa Martins, a radical member of the Revolutionary

Council, said today he considered strikes to be "anti-revolutionary". He told a press conference that strikes should be used only as a last resort, particularly in view of the country's economic difficulties. He added that the drop in industrial production last year was due partly to "a certain intransigence in labour relations", although he also blamed a drop in investment, bad management and the worldwide recession.

Major Martins disclosed that he was considering introducing a maximum wage, although he did not indicate at what level, and raising the existing minimum wage which is fixed at £38 a month. It was his intention to correct the present "distortions" in wage levels, he said, but this would take many years to achieve.

Lisbon, April 29.—Peasants have occupied a ducal estate and are guarding it against intruders about 30 miles north-west of here.

According to the Ministry of Agriculture, the peasants have sent a delegation to Lisbon to discuss the occupation of the 20,000-acre estate with the ministry.

An Agrarian Reform Bill introduced recently by the Government provides for the appropriation of all untitled land holdings over 1,235 acres. The authorities have given a warning, however, that they will punish people who seize land on their own initiative.

More couples are deciding that life is better with fewer children in the family

## W Germany's population begins to fall

From Dan van der Vat  
Bonn, April 29

For the first time since records were begun in 1816, the population of what is today West Germany fell in 1974 by 110,000, or 0.2 per cent, compared with 1973, according to figures from the Federal Statistics Office.

At the end of last year, the total population, including resident foreigners, was 61,991,000, compared with 62,101,000 a year earlier.

The immediate explanation for this is an excess of 101,000 last year of deaths over births. A similar excess, about 95,000 more deaths than live births, was noted in 1973. But in that year, a very large net inflow of 384,000 foreign workers and their families resulted in a net population increase of 289,000.

Last year, after the oil crisis and the ensuing recession, re-

cruitment of new workers from outside the European Community was barred while unemployment within West Germany rose steeply. The net result was that 9,000 more foreigners left the country than came to settle, bringing the total fall in the population to 110,000.

West Germany is at the bottom of the world's birth rate "league table" according to the United Nations. Curiously, East Germany also is at the foot of the table. The official figures coincided with the results of a public opinion poll on family sizes carried out by the Wicket Research Institute at Tübingen.

A representative cross-section of more than 2,000 adults of both sexes were asked how many children they wanted or regarded as the ideal number in a family. Seven per cent answered "none", compared

with four per cent in an identical poll two years earlier. About 14 per cent answered "one child", compared with only three per cent in the spring of 1973. This year, 57 per cent regard two children as the right number, compared with 69 per cent in 1973.

Researchers identified as the main reason for the falling desire for children "increased general uneasiness about the economic and political future" (61 per cent). This is an almost classic definition of Angst.

Certainly in West Germany, anxiety is centred on the question whether the current economic material prosperity can be expected to continue. The main-tenance of living standards is more important than the construction of dynasties as the "pill" begins to extinguish the German nation.

## Duclos funeral demonstration

From Our Own Correspondent  
Paris, April 29

M. François Mitterrand, the Socialist Party leader, who returned last night from the Soviet Union, was among a vast crowd attending the funeral of Jacques Duclos, the veteran Communist leader, who died on Friday.

The Communists turned to the occasion as the Père Lachaise cemetery into a peaceful working class demonstration and the Socialist Party leadership decided to join in.

## Nine set new prices to appease fishermen

From Michael Hornsby  
Brussels, April 29

EEC agricultural ministers meeting here agreed today on steps to alleviate the depressed state of the fish market and to protect member nations against unduly low prices of imported frozen fish.

Their measures should go some way to satisfy fishermen in Britain and Ireland who recently blocked ports to dramatize their plight characterized by rising costs, falling prices and the accumulation of stocks of frozen fish in storage.

Today's decisions will enable member countries to take appropriate action if entry prices of frozen cod, haddock and other species fall below certain levels. Mr Fred Peart, the British Minister of Agriculture, explained to journalists the minimum import price for the main types of frozen cod fillets had been set at about £550 a tonne and for haddock fillets at £575 a tonne. He considered this struck a "happy balance between the needs of producers and consumers".

These measures are likely to increase the consumer prices of fish and thus may well intensify the current debate within the British Labour Party over the effect of the nation's continued membership of the European Community on food costs. But Mr Peart said the fishermen comprise a politically more powerful lobby than the Labour left.

Britain previously had a voluntary price agreement with Norway, but its terms were failed to prevent undercutting by Norwegian supplies through third parties. The Community also agreed today to temporarily limit the stock of frozen fish in the market, at about 50,000 tonnes, to prevent them from being sold at a loss.

Mr Peart said storage subsidies would apply to fish producers, wholesale processors. They would for an unspecified period May 15; but they only to stocks existing date. Later catches whose inclusion was the Danes and the not quality for aid.

The British minister said at the meeting: the member state on which coastal fish his country would common fisheries meet substantial in national fishing live were in prospect in of the world.

The Community, journalists, must, if positive policy, to limit "to deal with" as they occur extension of fishing many countries may scope of Britain's di fishing fleet: w Community's fisherle it now stands. o Britain's home water EEC fleets from 1982

Informed sources Britain's plea has sympathetic hearing.

## Budgetary powers conf in EEC is still to come

From David Cross  
Luxembourg, April 29

The European Parliament today shied away from a direct confrontation with EEC member governments over this year's regional development fund.

Nevertheless, in defiance of the viewpoint adopted by the Nine, it stood firmly by its conviction that final control over expenditure from the fund rested with the Parliament rather than with the Council.

The simmering dispute, which at one stage threatened to delay the regional fund and cause institutional chaos in the Community, ended when members of Parliament overwhelmingly approved member governments' plans to earmark an initial allocation of £62.5m for this year.

But in a separate resolution formally adopted today, Parliament insisted that the regional fund should be classified as "discretionary" expenditure, and therefore under its final control. By contrast member governments have been insisting that for the next three years at least the fund should be regarded as "compulsory".

spending—a category which they have the

During a debate in Luxembourg, Mr L the leader of the Co group, said a clash b Parliament and memi ments over Parliame creased budgetary p been inevitable. Parli a duty to uphold its the Council felt it ha maintained a different view. Mr Michael Shaw, native colleague, es view. Parliament i was absolutely esser to remain firm on The assembly must other institutions i the rights at the its own.

The resolution, supported by 127 M of 138 in the HC effective response. tional conflict over fication of the fund autumn, when Parli begin deliberating i nity's 1976 draft bud stage the dispute will resurface when again attempts to c regional fund as d expenditure.

Parliamentary repo

## Drop in quality of French television shows alleged

From Richard Wigg  
Paris, April 29

Four months after the end of the old ORTF, the French state television network, some of the artists and technicians who make the films and documentaries for the new channels have alleged a decline in the quality of programmes.

If they are right, it is only the programmes made under the old set-up, and still being shown, that mask a further drop in artistic standards which will emerge in the months to come.

The allegations are made in a pamphlet entitled *The End for the Clowns?* released yesterday by the television film staffs' trade union. This body is affiliated to the communist-led General Confederation of Labour, but its 300 members represent only one third of all those employed in French television film studios.

Although the three new channels dispose of almost twice as much time as the old ORTF, 171 hours against 97, 60 per cent of the members are out on contracts, according to the pamphlet. This is essentially an account prepared from interviews with television film staffs over the past three months.

Alleging a decline in artistic standards, the documentary film makers say that in 1971 the ORTF reckoned between 70 and

80 work days for 50-minute feature; n been cut to 26. The studio technicians reduced correspond says.

Brine film makers new three-channel created at the behed dent Giscard d'Esta coming "enslaved" popularity ratings, i become commercially The place of good o mentaries and dran national broadcasti ought to offer, is progressively aban cheap reruns of old films and popular shows. The pamphle broad attack on the the new direct chosen by the Gove

One of the ironi these television fil who now look longi "good old days" were among its most critics, organizing fr test strikes among i staffs.

But one of the critics of *Le Monde* supported their app the resistance by a ber of television v bring about a change policies," he wrote. television borders i those who do not n strike."

## Italian jewellers on strike in robberies protest

From Our Correspondent  
Rome, April 29

Some 16,000 goldsmiths, silversmiths and jewellers' shops remained closed throughout Italy today in protest against the high rate of robberies.

The goldsmiths' federation, which is organizing the strike, is demanding a tough Government action against crime and criminals, particularly receivers of stolen goods. They also want strict controls on the pawnshops where with little difficulty bandits frequently get cash for their loot.

The goldsmiths and the jewellers are possibly the section of the public most frightened by the soaring crime rate, which is becoming a campaign issue for the June regional elections.

Many have been stripped of all their wares and virtually ruined, others have been beaten up or shot, and two have been kidnapped. Rome

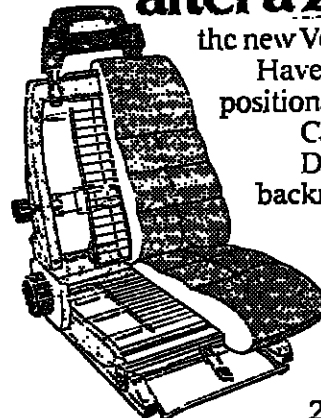
jewellers say that their number have i nals for "protection". Spurred on by Sig tore Panfani, secret Christian Democrats making law and ore his party's chief i weapons, the Cabi agreed to set up an terial committee to efforts to combat pe common crime.

Tomorrow the C Deputies will begin Government Bill to and magistrates w

It was hoped to b passed rapidly in the stage, a time-sav durs which is possi parties are agreed Communists insisted should so before b for a full debate, s the Government's r iv for the deteriorat and order should b to light.

# Would your car pass this test?

## Would it leave you feeling fresh after a 200 mile journey?



the new Volvo 244 has.  
Have the front seats as many as 14 forward and back positions?  
Can you alter the height of the driver's seat?  
Does it have an adjustable lumbar support in the backrest?  
Do you have plenty of legroom?  
(It's worth finding out whether a tall adult can sit in the back without being cramped, as he can in the 244.)  
Can the heater get the temperature up to 27 degrees centigrade when there's 25 degrees of frost outside?  
Are there 12 heating and ventilating outlets to give you exactly the climate you want?  
Is stale air drawn out quickly and efficiently?  
Next time you go on a long trip, try these things out.

## Is it easy to park in small spaces?

Does it have a turning circle that's actually smaller than a Beetle 1200, the Viva and the Cortina?  
Is the steering wheel nice and easy to turn?  
Can you move the road wheels from the extreme left to extreme right in as little as four and a half turns?  
Can you see every inch of the road when you're reversing?  
Have a look next time you're in a tight spot.

## Does it fire first time on a cold morning?

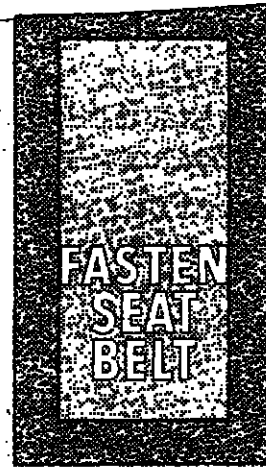
A good test of overall reliability: this.  
If you have trouble starting your car in damp or cold weather, check these points.  
Is the starter motor powerful enough?  
The one in the Volvo is made for snowbound Sweden.  
Can the damp get in?  
Remarkably enough, you can literally hose down the 244's engine without any risk whatsoever.  
Do you ever have difficulty starting when the engine's hot?  
Or with stalling in heavy traffic?  
The cross-flow cylinder head on the 244 cuts out both these little problems.  
Bear these things in mind next time your car misbehaves.



The new Volvo 244.

## Will it look after you (and your family) in a crash?

Has it got a specially designed front and rear that can absorb the energy of a 50 mph collision?  
Is the fuel tank tucked between the rear wheels, the safest possible place?  
Is the passenger compartment protected by a safety cage?  
Is a laminated windscreen standard?  
Will the steering wheel telescope in an accident?  
Have the rear doors got child-proof locks and windows?  
Does it nag you to wear your safety belts?  
If not, is it really safe?



## Are the controls easy to reach and hard to confuse?

See how your car fares with this one.  
Can you shut your eyes and still tell one switch from another?  
Have you ever turned off the lights when you meant to stop the windscreen wipers?  
Do you have to lean forward to change gear?  
Are you able to see the dials whatever position the steering wheel is in?  
If your car can't pass these tests, remember the 244 can.

## Is it clear of rust after a hard winter?

Look at the check list on the right.  
These are the places where rust first gets a footing.  
We've taken steps to keep the enemy at bay.  
To begin with, we've used galvanised materials.  
There's over 6½ lbs. of zinc on every single Volvo.  
Our primer has a patent anti-rust agent in it.  
The undercoat is bonded to the bodywork by an electric charge.

A generous 33 lbs. of paint go on each car. And the door sills are ventilated to keep them dry. So it's not really surprising that the Autumn 1974 Drive Magazine called it 'the car that leads the field'.

The latest Swedish Government survey found that the average Volvo lasted at least two years longer than any other car they tested and 16.2 years altogether.

Obviously this makes it more reliable even if you only keep it for a couple of years. And it helps it hold its value.

Points worth considering when you're buying a new car these days.

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Under wings	
Round the lights	
Door edges	
Under radiator	
Window trim	

In this advertisement we are able to touch on only a few of the features of this remarkable car. We have produced a special information kit called The Volvo Facts, which gives you the whole story. Just write to us or telephone us and we'll put a free copy in the post.

**VOLVO**



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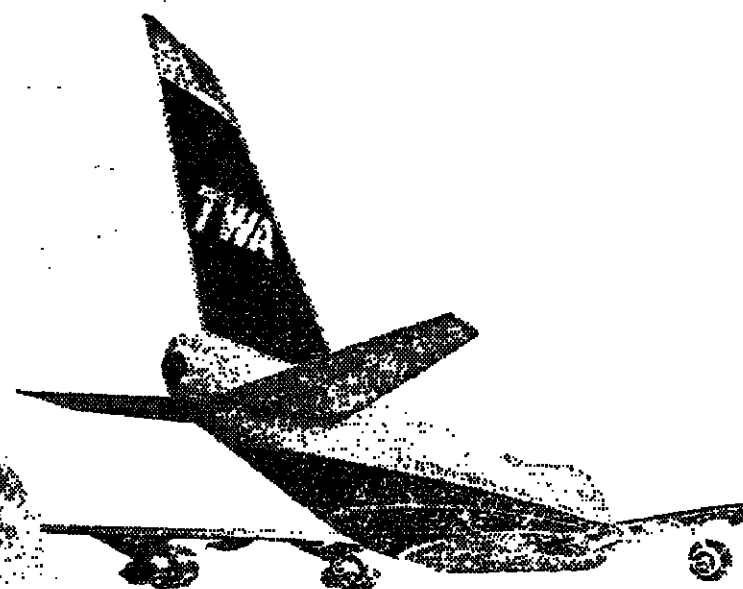
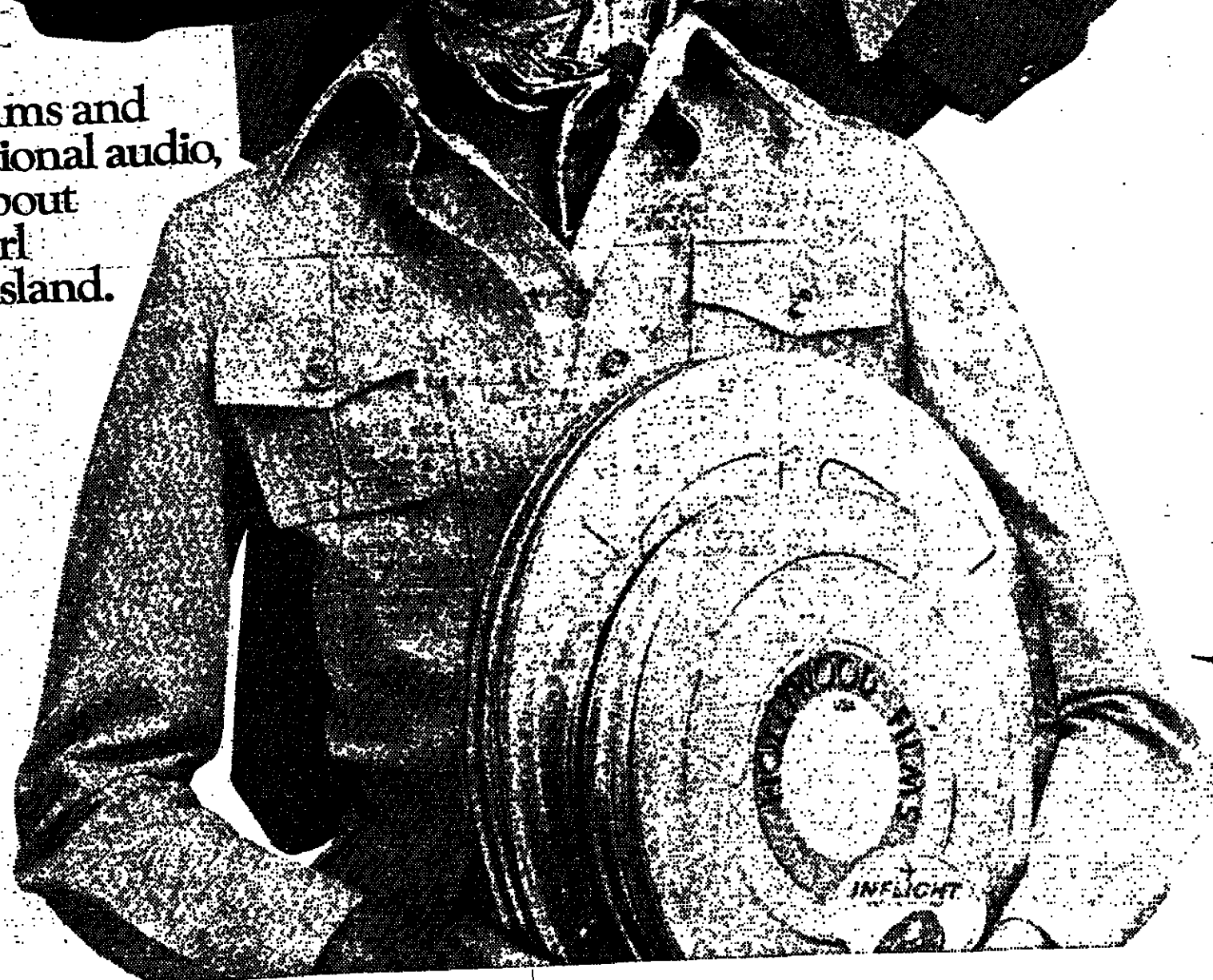


A cocktail from Kentucky,  
or London from a girl from  
Rock Springs, Wyoming.

A choice of 3 international  
entrées on every flight  
in Economy from a girl from  
Springfield, Missouri.



A choice of 2 films and  
8 tracks of international audio,  
and some advice about  
New York from a girl  
from Manhattan Island.



Trans World Service  
from TWA.



Part IV  
Continued from yesterday

ADVERTISEMENT

## KIM IL SUNG

ON SOME PROBLEMS OF OUR PARTY'S  
JUCHE IDEA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF  
THE REPUBLIC'S INTERNAL  
AND EXTERNAL POLICIES

Answers given by President Kim Il Sung of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to questions put by journalists, of MAINICHI SHIMBUN.

This part is on some problems of the Juche idea.

Next, you asked me to tell you about the education of our youth and children in accordance with the Juche idea.

We are greatly concerned for the education of youth and children. It is because our youth and children are the reserves of our revolution who must carry forward the revolution generation and moreover, there is no more important job than educating and training people for the progress of society.

It is true that without the means of living people cannot live nor develop. In this sense, the economy constitutes the material foundation of social life. However, the means of living is always for people and it will be meaningless apart from people. It is also people who create the means of living and improve living conditions. Therefore, what is most important in the development of society is to train people to be more dynamic; in order to powerfully push ahead with the revolution and construction, top priority should be given to the work with men to the work of remoulding men.

The basis of the Juche idea is that man is the master of all things and decides everything. Remaking nature and society is also for people and it is the work done by them. Man is most precious in the world and it is also man who is most powerful. All our work is for people and its success depends on how to do the work with men. Education is an important aspect of the work with men.

Education is the work of

pared mentally, morally and physically. In order to become social beings, they should first have sound social consciousness. If the younger generation, who were born in this revolutionary era, are not armed with revolutionary ideas and are ignorant of science and technique or literature and art as the men in our era of socialist construction, they cannot be called social beings.

Only when people have ideological and cultural developments which they should possess as social beings, can they participate in all aspects of social life as masters and energetically accelerate the revolution and construction. This is why our Party always places greater emphasis on education than on any other work.

We regard as the central matter in education the implementation of the principles of socialist pedagogy. The basic principle of socialist pedagogy lies in training people to be reliable revolutionary workers equipped with the ideology, knowledge and strong physique that will enable them to take part in the revolution and construction as masters.

The most important thing in training and educating people is to remould their ideology in a revolutionary way. All activities of people are determined by their ideology. If a man is ideologically backward and morally degenerated despite his excellent health, he cannot be regarded as a useful member of our society. Therefore, our Party always directs its primary attention to remoulding people's ideology in a revolutionary manner.

In the education of youth and children, we should give top priority to the work of training them in revolutionary ideas. If they hate to work and do not serve the state and

no use however excellent they may be. They must be so equipped with socialist patriotism and the revolutionary world outlook as to work for their people and homeland instead of trying to get promoted or earn money; we should see to it that even if they learn one thing it is useful and that all youth and children grow up into a new type of men with communist moral traits, who are eager to work, protect and take good care of state and social property, and take the lead in the revolution and construction. This is the fundamental requirement of socialist pedagogy.

Today we are making great efforts to enforce universal ten-year compulsory senior-middle-school education. When this has been carried out, all our new rising generation will grow up as able builders of socialism who are equipped with the essentials of revolutionary world outlook and have basic knowledge of nature and society and more than one technical skill. This is of tremendous significance in revolutionizing and working-classing all society and advancing our socialist construction.

You requested me to make a detailed explanation of the Juche idea. But there is no end to it. All policies and lines of our Party emanate from the Juche idea and they embody this idea. The Juche idea is not a theory for the sake of theory; it is the guiding idea of the revolution and construction in our country we put forth on the basis of the experience and lessons obtained through our complicated revolutionary struggles. In our country the Juche idea is a stern fact of history established in all aspects of social life. In order to have a deep understanding of the Juche idea, it is necessary to make a detailed study of our Party's policy and

Concluded.

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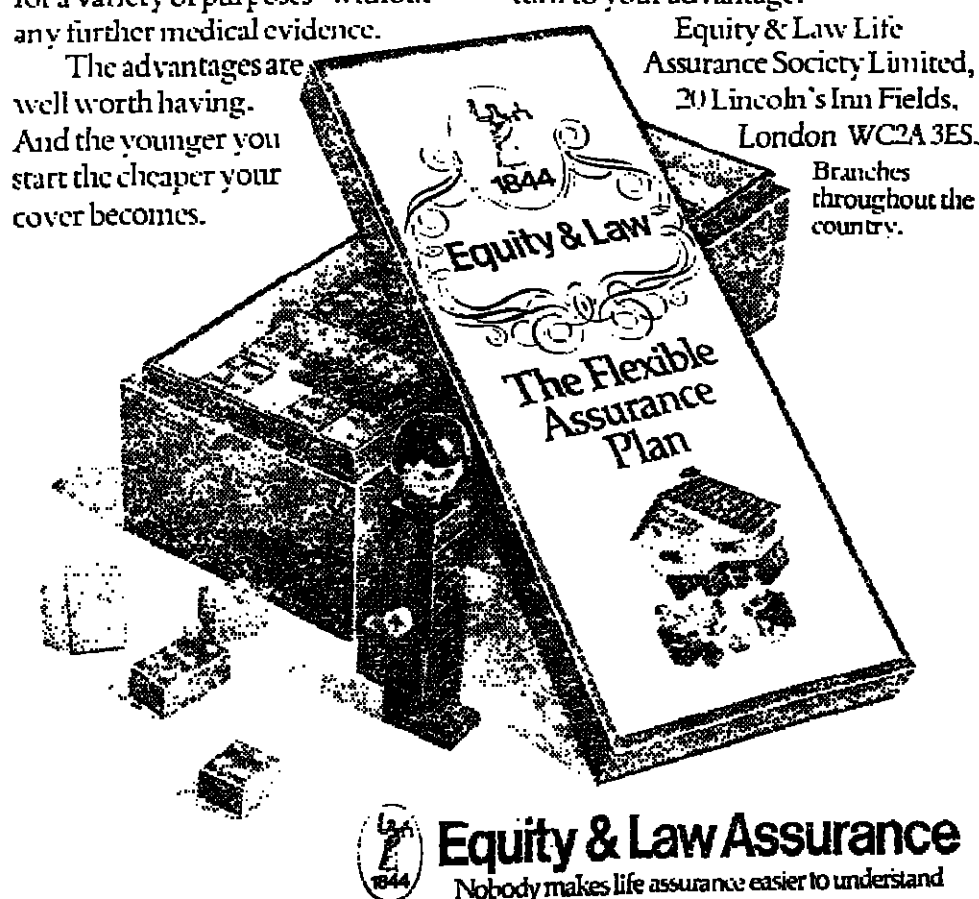
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## INDO-CHINA

Evacuation helicopters  
unload refugees, then  
plunge into the ocean

This is a pooled dispatch from the Blue Ridge, a United States Navy command ship off the South Vietnamese coast accompanying other American naval vessels receiving evacuees from Saigon.

On board the Blue Ridge, April 29.—Mr Nguyen Coang, the former South Vietnamese Prime Minister and Mrs Graham Marshall, wife of the United States Ambassador to South Vietnam, were among the first group of evacuees ferried from Saigon by helicopter to an American naval armada off the Vietnam coast, a navy spokesman said today.

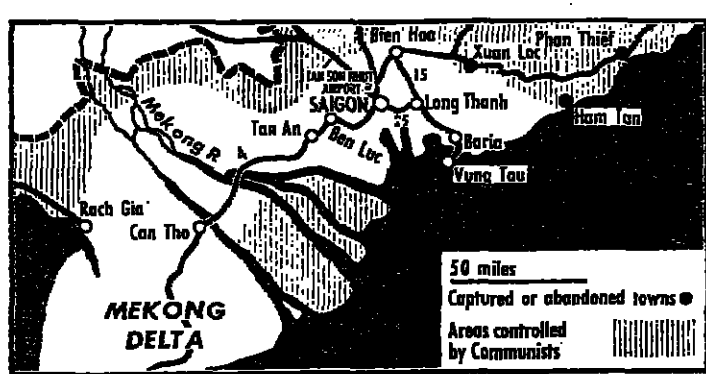
The first two batches of helicopters piloted by nervous pilots swooped down on the Blue Ridge at the same time in desperate bids to land first.

The helicopters, carrying Americans, other foreigners and selected Vietnamese to the 40-vessel armada of the United States Seventh Fleet waiting off the port of Yung Tau for the last phase of the evacuation from Saigon.

The first helicopters arrived above the fleet before ships were in position to receive them. Everyone was caught by surprise.

The first of seven helicopters coming in to land hit another helicopter about to take off from the rear of this command and communications ship. The Vietnamese pilot brought down his aircraft into the whirling blades of the first, almost toppling his load of women and children into the sea.

Jagged hunks of metal sprayed across the main deck.

American jet  
reacts to  
ground fire

Continued from page 1

the deterioration of the military situation.

To the last Dr Kissinger, Secretary of State, and his advisers persisted in believing that communist military action could be averted, allowing the evacuation of a few thousand more Vietnamese.

To the last there was hope that a "controlled solution", meaning some kind of surrender negotiations, would avert resort to desperate measures.

Short of having to fight off the South Vietnamese, which apparently never materialized on any scale, what happened was the "worst case" contingency Option Four, as it was called, with the Marines and fighter cover being sent in.

The other options, still under review on Sunday, were sending in more air transports, and evacuating up to 175,000 Vietnamese by ship. But the new South Vietnamese president, admitting he was caving in to communist demands, yesterday asked the Americans to have all the military assets' staff out by Tuesday night, according to informed sources.

By mid-morning Washington time (midnight in Saigon) the only reported evacuation "casualties" were one helicopter hit by ground fire and one A-1J Corsair jet fighter shot down after taking off from a carrier in the supporting force. The pilot was rescued.

The only admitted American force used was when a Phantom fighter-bomber retaliated against a presumed communist anti-aircraft battery north-east of Saigon.

As the night-time drama unfolded at the State Department, Mr Robert Anderson, the spokesman read the definitive statement. It began with the historic words: "The President has ordered the evacuation of the remaining Americans from Vietnam. . . Force will not be used unless essential to protect the lives of those involved. . ."

Officials in the office of the Board of Supervisors say arrangements are being made to fly the refugees to military bases in Florida and Arkansas, as well as San Diego in southern California. The officials doubt whether the number of refugees settling in California will run more than a few thousand. Such a number could be accommodated without undue strains if placed widely throughout the state, they say.

However, the board fears its resources will be insufficient if many of the refugees come to Los Angeles, which is quite possible in view of San Diego's close proximity.

As a result, the board wrote to President Ford on Thursday seeking assurances that federal funds would be available to aid settlement of the refugees.

Today Mr Kenneth Haber, one of the board, has written to Mr Ford again, saying the refugees must be spread throughout the whole country.

The landing helicopter teetered for a moment, righted itself and then its door opened and crying women clutching their children ran to safety. No one was hurt.

The helicopter unloaded Vietnamese generals, American officials, women and their babies as fast as they could.

In the first hour after the flight, four helicopters arrived, eight other aircraft landed on the Blue Ridge's single helicopter pad. They were promptly jettisoned into the sea as fast as possible to make room for more.

One nervous pilot jumped from his helicopter prematurely, and the machine crashed against the Blue Ridge's side sending metal fragments over the main deck. The pilot was rescued.

The ship's crew pushed overboard two other helicopters.

The routine followed was for the passengers to get out of the helicopters as fast as possible. Then the doors were ripped off to make ditching easier. The pilots took off again, bringing down their aircraft near the Blue Ridge and within rescuing distance of the two small boats patrolling nearby.

No one was killed during the 90 minutes that helicopters were plunging into the sea one after another.

The Navy did not reveal the total number of Vietnamese on board but said the first 14 held together carried 26 Americans, two Filipinos, two Koreans and two other unidentified foreign nationals.—Reuter.

The PRG has been showing growing impatience and has been stepping up its demands, possibly under pressure from Hanoi.

According to informed sources in Hanoi, a military solution is planned in the event of discussion breaking down between the PRG and the new government in Saigon; the efforts made by some countries—an indirect reference to France—had failed.

place under intense shellfire as communist forces moved into the town.

The evacuation was carried out by hundreds—some reports said thousands—of South Vietnamese craft of every size, from the tiny boats of American, South Korean, Japanese and Taiwanese vessels.

At Saigon's Tan Son Nhut airport, 15 South Vietnamese, including a colonel, forced their way on to an Air America aircraft. The pilot said after landing in Hong Kong that the colonel tried to ram his jeep into the aircraft while it was taxiing on the runway.

"I finally decided to let him on the plane because there was no other way the plane could take off. I disarmed him as soon as he came on board."

For the first time, the engines were started. They just sat there and refused to move. The pilot added.—Reuter and AP.

China rails against role  
of the US in Vietnam

Peking, April 29.—China today accused the United States of trying to "play for time" in Vietnam by backing the new administration of General Duong van Minh.

As communist troops tightened their grip, blacked-out Saigon and an increase in the violence of Chinese attacks on the United States. There has been a parallel increase in the struggle of the Laotian people against "the United States imperialism-supported Lao ultra-rightists".

Observers believe Peking will now push for a Pao-Lao controlled administration in Vietnam to complete a triumvirate of governments in former French Indo-China—Cambodia, Vietnam and Laos.—Reuter.

California prepares to take  
large number of refugees

From Frank Vogl  
Los Angeles, April 29

State and local officials in California are hurriedly making preparations to receive large numbers of refugees from South Vietnam. The panic over the prospect of thousands of Vietnamese flooding the state, which was widespread only a few days ago, however, appears to have been no more than a one-week wonder.

It started with a statement by Mr James Hayes, a member of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors. He said he had been told that between 600,000 and a million refugees would be coming to California.

This immediately produced headlines, public protests and torrents of mail to officials and Congressmen. The storm appears to have abated as people realized that Mr Hayes's figures were grossly exaggerated.

Mr Robert McClellan, Assistant Secretary of State, said in Washington on Sunday that possibly 130,000 refugees would come to the United States from Vietnam. So far only about

Paris sees  
a slim  
hope for  
negotiation

From Charles Hargrove  
Paris, April 29

All hope of a negotiated solution to the Vietnam conflict was not ruled out this evening in Paris. The delegation of the Provisional Revolutionary Government (PRG) made it clear this evening that if its two basic demands were met—the cessation of American military involvement and interference in South Vietnam, and the dismantling of the whole apparatus of coercion and repression of the Saigon regime—a political solution remains possible.

But for the time being these conditions had not been fulfilled, a spokesman for the delegation insisted.

M Jean Sauvagnargues, the French Foreign Minister, who has initiated a great deal of diplomatic activity in the past fortnight through contacts with all the parties concerned in trying to avert a military solution and a bloodbath in Saigon, declared today that all the conditions for a political solution seemed to me to be fulfilled. We are surprised that it does not get under way."

He spoke as he left the Elysee Palace after a meeting with President Giscard d'Estaing.

The impression in informed circles in Paris is that the negotiation atmosphere which has reigned in Saigon political circles since the departure of General Thieu, has, by delaying the coming to power of General Minh, seriously undermined the new President's chances of achieving a negotiated settlement.

The PRG has been showing growing impatience and has been stepping up its demands, possibly under pressure from Hanoi.

According to informed sources in Hanoi, a military solution is planned in the event of discussion breaking down between the PRG and the new government in Saigon; the efforts made by some countries—an indirect reference to France—had failed.

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That Rhodesia is not the only

## OVERSEAS

Britain has plan to  
throttle Rhodesia

From David Spanier  
Diplomatic Correspondent  
Kingston, Jamaica, April 29

A new attempt by Britain to resolve the Rhodesian dilemma emerged at the start of the Commonwealth Prime Ministers Conference today. Responding to African pressure, Britain may seek new contacts, at ministerial level, with Mr Ian Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister.

The aim will be to discover as first hand how Mr Smith sees the prospects of a settlement with the Africans in Rhodesia and whether a constitutional conference would be practical policies.

Britain has travelled this road to Salisbury before, and found it very unrewarding, but this time there is a difference. The visiting emissary's glove will remain, it seems, an iron sanction.

For Britain has made it known to her African partners that she is ready to make a substantial contribution if an international fund is set up to help Mozambique but the cost of closing its borders to Rhodesia.

How much this would cost is open to question. Britain has apparently estimated £10m as the total cost, but has put a one-year limit on the operation. The Africans believe it might take £40m and should, in any event, not be limited to a fixed period.

These important developments, as it were the sweet-and-sour approach to the negotiation, based on trying to be sweetly reasonable and extremely tough at the same time, emerged from a meeting last night between Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, and the foreign ministers of Zambia, Zimbabwe and Botswana.

Foremost in this new analysis is the Commonwealth proposal to aid Mozambique, through the United Nations, in order to compensate the new Frelimo régime which gains independence on June 25 for shutting out all Rhodesian trade.

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was underlined by Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, in a characteristically moving address at the opening of the plenary session.

"I wish the Commonwealth as an entity could have been a greater help to Cyprus in its hour of travail", she told the leaders, Archbishop Makarios among them. Conflict anywhere involves us all psychologically, if not militarily.

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Congressmen 'broke down  
as Mr Nixon resigned'

From Fred Emery  
Washington, April 29

Not only President Nixon wept as he bade farewell, on the night of his resignation broadcast, to 46 congressional loyalists. Representative Joe Waggoner, a Louisiana Democrat was beating the wall of the cabinet room in the White House with his fist.

Senator Barry Goldwater, the Arizona Republican, hugged the President as he left his composure; and Senator John Tower, a Texas Republican, also broke down, sobbing.

This is the principal revelation



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## Lack of links with Tel Aviv and Riyadh hampers Moscow's Middle East peace drive

### Soviet moves to get the Arabs to Geneva

From Edmund Stevens  
Moscow, April 29

Ever since Dr Henry Kissinger's last round of peace negotiations fizzled out, Soviet diplomacy has concentrated on capturing the initiative in the Middle East. The Russian approach differs markedly from that of the American Secretary of State. Instead of the mountain going to various Muhammad, the Arabs have been dropping to the Soviet mountain.

Mr Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian guerrilla leader, arrived yesterday. He came after Mr Abdul Khaddam, the Syrian Foreign Minister, who had arrived on April 23 close on the heels of Mr Ismail Fahmi, Egypt's Foreign Minister.

The main thrust of the Soviet initiative has been to persuade and cajole the refractory Arabs into taking a posture which would allow the resumption of the Geneva peace conference. The toasts, speeches and communiqués have all called for its reconvening in the earliest future, but no date has yet been set.

There is also a constant reiteration of the fact that any Middle East settlement must include complete Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territories and recognition of the national rights of the Palestinians, including the right to form their own state.

Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, pulled no punches in denouncing the Americans' step-by-step approach without actually naming Dr Kissinger. At a Kremlin dinner for Mr Khaddam, he declared that experience had shown that partial deals separated from solution of the basic issues did not promote such a solution, but raised new obstacles.

Actually, when Dr Kissinger was making his attempts at shuttle diplomacy the Russians were sitting on the sidelines. They indicated their disapproval but made no effort to help or hinder Dr Kissinger, although there was ample opportunity.

In their present attempt to secure an active role the Russians are acutely aware of the handicap imposed by their one-sidedness. Whereas the Americans have good relations with most of the Arab states, as well as with Israel, the Russians have had no communication with Israel since 1967.

Recent tentative moves to re-establish some form of contact with the Jewish state are believed to be attempts to remedy the situation. Even more significant was the olive branch Mr Gromyko proffered at the Khaddam dinner by stating that Israel could, if it so desired, obtain "the very same guarantees" from the Soviet Union, provided it withdrew from occupied territories.

How such guarantees would be phrased remains to be seen, but presumably the Soviet policymakers themselves have not yet formulated them. This could be taken up at Geneva if the conference does not get bogged down at the very outset over such matters as the seating of the Palestinians.

It is believed that the Russians, while advocating full Palestinian participation, may be urging Mr Arafat not to insist on being present at the opening of the conference but to time his entrance for a session after the conference has got under way.

While the Russians derive some tactical benefit from Dr Kissinger's setbacks they have yet to enjoy full Arab trust and support for their efforts. Their main trouble is that they have no links whatever with Saudi Arabia, whose conservative, deeply religious rulers so far refuse any truck with the "godless communists", nor has the death of King Faisal altered matters so far. The other Arabs, the heels of Moscow's main client states, look to wealthy Saudi Arabia for aid and advice now as they did at the time of the 1973 war.

The recent rift between Egypt and Syria was patched up last week not in Moscow but in Riyadh. Despite the apparent conciliation achieved by the Egyptian Foreign Minister on his Moscow visit, Soviet-Egyptian relations are certain to continue having ups and downs.

Ironically, despite present hostility, many informed Russians take the long view, believing that once peace is restored in the Middle East the presence in Israel of a great number of recent emigrants from the Soviet Union could help in bringing about a settlement.

The immediate problem is how to negotiate a solution to the Middle East conflict that would prevent renewed bloodshed, which neither the Americans nor the Russians want.

## 'Waste and inefficiency' in Israel defence works

From Eric Marsden  
Jerusalem, April 29

Serious shortcomings in Israel's defence establishment have been disclosed in an official report here. Its publication coincides with an investigation into allegations of fraud and corruption by the Defence Ministry employees, though there is no direct connection.

A report by the State Comptroller, Dr Yizhak Nebenzahl, to instances of tremendous waste and inefficiency in work carried out as part of the Israel Army's urgent programme of expansion and reorganization after the October war of 1973. One involved the building of fortifications on the Golan Heights, which cost about \$14m instead of the \$7m budgeted.

After the Army general staff decided to construct a line of combat emplacements in July 1974, it was recommended that five companies should share the planning work, but a request for urgency by Northern Command led to the job being given to one company familiar with the terrain and work.

No contract was drawn up and there was no written agreement on the fee. Plans were not submitted for approval and when it was found they were not in accordance with instructions this led to hitches and delays.

There were breakdowns because of lack of coordination between the general staff and operators in the field and lack of supervision of primary work done by troops, leading to extra expenditure.

The Comptroller also complains of lack of coordination and planning in the construction of strongholds to protect civilian settlements, some of which were found to be faulty only after work had been completed.

Within the next two days the Knesset is expected to debate recent disclosures of alleged corruption over defence contracts. More than a dozen military and civilian members of the defence establishment have been arrested on suspicion of taking bribes in four major cases. According to one report, two Defence Ministry officials set up an electronics company in the United States, using a letterhead on behalf of the Ministry.

A number of industrialists are under investigation for offering bribes or obtaining defence orders fraudulently. One contract was granted to a fictitious company set up by a manufacturer of electronic equipment with his own firm, Cheques were paid by the Ministry to the post office box number rented to the name of the bogus firm, it is claimed.

Mr Shimon Peres, the Defence Minister, has announced reforms to tighten supervision over contracts. He has emphasized that only a small number of ministry employees are involved in the allegations.

## Agreement to close US bases in Greece

From Mario Modiano  
Athens, April 29

The United States and Greece announced jointly today that they had agreed to terminate the homeporting of American warships at Elefsis, near Athens, close down an American air base at Athens airport and limit the overall American military presence in Greece.

The joint statement was issued today at the close of a second round of negotiations concerning mutual defence matters which lasted from April 7 until today.

It announced that "at Greek States agreed to terminate homeporting of American warships at Elefsis. Secondly, the United States (Athens airport) will be closed. Certain United States facilities which contribute to Greek defence needs will continue to operate on the Greek Air Force base at Telenikon."

The statement added that agreement was also expected on "the elimination, reduction and consolidation of other United States facilities in Greece."

The joint statement also said: "The installations where United States facilities remain will be placed under Greek command."

Major Eva den Hartog, of the Dutch Salvation Army, has spent the last 17 years at the disaster centres of the world: the Congo, Calcutta, Vietnam and now Bangladesh. She gave the first showing of a film about the Salvation Army's work in Bangladesh called *In Spirit of All Doubts*.

Major den Hartog is a calm, pragmatic, unselfish British state registered nurse and midwife who is so accustomed to looking starvation, disease and death in the face that she is no longer afraid of them.

She admitted that at times she lost faith; cursed, and wanted to help dying children to die, but said: "It is always in the most difficult situations that I feel that God is nearest."

She said that often the most that she and her tiny team could do in the reeking suffering was to let children die in peace. "We give as much comfort as possible, so that the child can at least die on a bed, with somebody caring for him."

"Children often suffer so much from attempts to prolong their lives, that it is better to stop trying, and let them die as quickly as possible, in as much comfort as possible."

She added: "Coming from Bangladesh to England is like coming from Hell to Heaven. I see well-fed children. I see people throwing away scraps of food that would be a feast out there. I believe that there is enough food in the well-fed part of the world to end starvation everywhere."

Major Eva den Hartog in London yesterday.

London embassy raiders tackled by special squad

By a Staff Reporter

The Diplomatic Protection Group, a mobile police squad formed last November to protect embassies and consulates, went into action yesterday when Iranian students occupied the Iranian Embassy in Princes Gate, South Kensington.

Armed officers of the group, which has its own radio telephone channel, were at embassy seconds after about 30 students stormed in, protesting about the deaths of nine political prisoners in Iran and shouting slogans against the Shah.

The demonstrators left peacefully after about 10 minutes.

Joan Bakewell, broadcaster and journalist, writes this week's guest column in our International Women's Year series.

## Marriage is no meal ticket

"Will you be giving up work then?" I was surprised to find marriage, even in these liberated times, still regarded as a meal ticket. But, marriage in mid-1975 is still lumbered with many of the attitudes it had when I last embarked on the essay some 20 years ago. The sense of being handed over into the custody of another person still lingers: If you're lucky it's to the very best kind of nursing home, if not, it's confinement in a lunatic asylum. And in either case the question who cares for whom is always begged.

On the first occasion I willingly gave the care of my home and husband top priority in my life. That suited us both and anyway *The Feminine Mystique* had not yet been written. By the time it was published over here I was already having similar thoughts to its author, Betty Friedan. Since then I imagined all had changed. A generation of women have grown up familiar, however peripherally, with the debate about women's liberation. Women's magazines, once the purveyors of Friedman's ideas, have begun to tackle issues of importance to women with independent lives. I have been part of that generation, embarking on a career of my own, reading the books, arguing the liberation case over and over, supporting statutory changes and bringing up my children to question grandiose generalizations from both sides. I thought marriage itself had gone through change.

Mine certainly had. But for the last three years I have been in a called a single family unit. I have been both breadwinner and mother to my two children and grown used, without noticing, to the rigours and independence involved. Only now, confronted with another change of state, am I suddenly aware of the multitude of insidious ways in which marriage today still puts a woman down. Many are nagging and merely irritating. Others are a matter of custom rather than law. Some are severe enough to call for legal remedy at once. Men don't suffer any of them.

For a start there's the changing of one's name. To give up one's own name permanently for another is, by any standard, an act of submission. It is to take on the aura of another life and adopt it as one's own. No woman need do it, but most of us suppose it to be legally required. It isn't. The marriage must, of course, be registered at Somerset House but as long as you are consistently known for all purposes by the same name, that name can be your own, his or even anything you like. Women in the theatre and television keep the names associated with their professional identities. But, I wonder, would more women do so if they realized they wouldn't know who belonged to whom?

Then there's income tax. Working wives can apply to be assessed separately from their husbands, though if they are not there's still the patronizing indignity that it is only the husband who fills in the form. Things are worse if the wife has a salary layer at the time of her husband's death. It is an extraordinary fact that income tax is that any payment over £1,000 a year made by an ex-husband towards the support of his own children is, on his ex-wife's remarriage, credited to her.

Such humiliations only apply above a comfortable income level. What is far more widespread and, therefore, socially scandalous, is the problem of women married to husbands who hold tight the family purse strings. Many men earning £30 or £50 or even £70 a week allow their wives a mere pittance on which to support the home and children. It can be as little as £4. Poverty among married women bringing up children is far more extensive than the income level of their husbands reveals. And a wife of a gambler, a wastrel or a heavy drinker has no redress for herself and her children. Their condition is one of abject dependence—often amounting to deprivation—with no legal claim to any share in the family income whatsoever. A wife can go to court with a claim that her husband will

burden of proof is on her and what already strained marriage could survive that?

The Married Women's Association works to promote recognition of a wife as a legal equal financial partner, rather than a legal dependant. It wishes to see that present marriage law amended so that whatever is earned by people who are married is earned for the family unit. It is right to do so. These matters, because they concern women within the home and within marriage are not covered by either the new discrimination proposals or the changed provisions for women at divorce.

A marriage—unless it actually breaks down—is considered to be happy and the financial arrangements within it mutually agreed. And even I—with stars in my eyes—know that just isn't so.

Katie Stewart

## Turn on heat to turn the tables on an old favourite

Savoury soufflés always seem to get the attention, but what a marvellous hot pudding a sweet soufflé makes. The foundation of any hot soufflé is a thick white sauce which in cookery books is often referred to as a panada. Actually, it is an ordinary sauce thickened with half the quantity of milk. This very thick blend is then thinned down by the addition of egg yolks.

So far the method for both sweet and savoury soufflés remains the same but here the similarity ends. Chocolate, sugar, spices and fruit can now be used to flavour the hot pudding ones. But to return to the consistency of the foundation mixture for a moment—if the panada is too thin to start with, the egg yolks will make the mixture thinner and the folded-in egg whites are liable to separate out, leaving the soufflé flat. So follow the recipes carefully.

Make this foundation mixture in a good sized saucepan of 1½ pints, remembering that the beaten whites have to be folded-in at a later stage. Up to the preparation of the sauce and the stirring in of the egg yolks, in most cases, the flavourings for the soufflé mixture can be prepared in advance. Once the egg whites are folded-in you really must go cut corners and bake the mixture.

Don't think you can cut corners by whisking egg whites before you need them. They break down and become watery when left standing. Whisk whites only when you are ready to fold them into the mixture, and do the blending carefully, using a metal spoon or one of those rubber spatulas with a cutting edge. Folding in the different flavours must be done in an over and over movement which combines ingredients and retains the maximum amount of volume at the same time. Mixing with a blunt edged implement like a wooden spoon breaks out the air and deflates the whole object. If your saucepan is on the small side, or you feel that it is awkward to mix in such a straight-sided container, tip the soufflé mixture into a mixing bowl before folding-in the whites. It's easier to turn the bowl and scrape through the mixture if this kind of recipe is new to you.

Soufflés should be baked in china or clear oven glass dishes, but you can use any straight-sided container you like so long as it's oven-proof and you prepare the sides of the dish properly. For a sweet soufflé the inside of the dish must be carefully buttered. Use a little soft butter and grease the dish with your fingers rather than a greased paper. Spoon a little castor sugar into the centre of the dish and make a little mound in the middle. Turn the dish upside down and tap out any excess sugar and you are ready to go ahead.



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Savoury soufflés always seem to get the attention, but what a marvellous hot pudding a sweet soufflé makes. The foundation of any hot soufflé is a thick white sauce which in cookery books is often referred to as a panada. Actually, it is an ordinary sauce thickened with half the quantity of milk. This very thick blend is then thinned down by the addition of egg yolks.

So far the method for both sweet and savoury soufflés remains the same but here the similarity ends. Chocolate, sugar, spices and fruit can now be used to flavour the hot pudding ones. But to return to the consistency of the foundation mixture for a moment—if the panada is too thin to start with, the egg yolks will make the mixture thinner and the folded-in egg whites are liable to separate out, leaving the soufflé flat. So follow the recipes carefully.

Make this foundation mixture in a good sized saucepan of 1½ pints, remembering that the beaten whites have to be folded-in at a later stage. Up to the preparation of the sauce and the stirring in of the egg yolks, in most cases, the flavourings for the soufflé mixture can be prepared in advance. Once the egg whites are folded-in you really must go cut corners and bake the mixture.

Don't think you can cut corners by whisking egg whites before you need them. They break down and become watery when left standing. Whisk whites only when you are ready to fold them into the mixture, and do the blending carefully, using a metal spoon or one of those rubber spatulas with a cutting edge. Folding in the different flavours must be done in an over and over movement which combines ingredients and retains the maximum amount of volume at the same time. Mixing with a blunt edged implement like a wooden spoon breaks out the air and deflates the whole object. If your saucepan is on the small side, or you feel that it is awkward to mix in such a straight-sided container, tip the soufflé mixture into a mixing bowl before folding-in the whites. It's easier to turn the bowl and scrape through the mixture if this kind of recipe is new to you.

Soufflés should be baked in china or clear oven glass dishes, but you can use any straight-sided container you like so long as it's oven-proof and you prepare the sides of the dish properly. For a sweet soufflé the inside of the dish must be carefully buttered. Use a little soft butter and grease the dish with your fingers rather than a greased paper. Spoon a little castor sugar into the centre of the dish and make a little mound in the middle. Turn the dish upside down and tap out any excess sugar and you are ready to go ahead.

Hot Lemon Soufflé  
Serves 3-4  
1 pint milk  
100g butter  
100g plain flour  
1 pint milk  
3 egg yolks  
4 egg whites  
Butter and sugar a 1½ pint or 6 inch soufflé dish and set aside. Melt the butter in a saucepan and set over low heat for just long enough to melt the chocolate. Stir to blend in with the water to make a creamy smooth mixture. Add the sugar and draw off the heat.

Rum Sauce  
Make by mixing 2oz butter, 2oz castor sugar in a saucepan until creamy. Set over low heat and stir until the mixture has just come to the boil. Draw off the heat and stir in three tablespoons rum. Serve hot.

Ginger Soufflé  
Serves 3-4  
100g butter  
100g plain flour  
1 pint milk  
100g castor sugar  
2 level teaspoons ground ginger  
2 tablespoons finely chopped stem ginger  
3 tablespoons syrup from the ginger jar  
3 egg yolks  
4 egg whites  
Butter and sugar a 1½ pint or 6 inch soufflé dish and set aside. Melt the butter in a saucepan over low heat. Stir in the flour and cook gently for a few minutes or until the mixture takes on a lighter

## China protests against Indian action in Sikkim

From Our Own Correspondent  
Peking, April 29

China today protested against India's "illegal annexation" of Sikkim and said it would never recognise it.

Correspondents were summoned to the Foreign Ministry and handed the text of the protest, which described the recent referendum in Sikkim as a farce at the point of Indian bayonets.

"It is indeed presumptuous in the extreme for the Indian Government to swallow up a neighbouring country in so flagrant a fashion today, in the twentieth century," the protest said.

"Sikkim today, whose turn tomorrow?" China accused the Soviet Union of inciting India to take over Sikkim.

Extortion letter leads to 20 years in jail

San Diego, California, April 29—Bobby Joe Kesse, aged 41, was sentenced to 20 years in prison yesterday for conspiracy to kidnap Mr John Patterson, the American diplomat, who was found killed in Mexico. Mr Kesse was said to have written a letter demanding \$250,000 (about £103,200) for the diplomat's freedom.—AP.

which said that the question of displaced persons and some geographical aspects of a possible future settlement were examined. In order to examine further the suggestions put forward there will be private consultations tomorrow and the negotiators will meet again in closed session on Thursday morning. The atmosphere throughout today was described by a United Nations official as friendly and constructive.

Earlier in the day Mr Denktash and Mr Clerides met Mr William Eagleston, director of the southern European division of the United States State Department, who arrived in Vienna after visits to Athens and Ankara. He came to learn

## Woman gave up security to live with disaster

By Philip Howard

A veteran from the front lines of the world's disasters and miseries came to London yesterday for a flying visit, to tell the fair society how the thin rest of the world lives and dies.

Major Eva den Hartog, of the Dutch Salvation Army, has spent the last 17 years at the disaster centres of the world: the Congo, Calcutta, Vietnam and now Bangladesh. She gave the first showing of a film about the Salvation Army's work in Bangladesh called *In Spirit of All Doubts*.

Major den Hartog is a calm, pragmatic, unselfish British state registered nurse and midwife who is so accustomed to looking starvation, disease and death in the face that she is no longer afraid of them.

She admitted that at times she lost faith; cursed, and wanted to help dying children to die, but said: "It is always in the most difficult situations that I feel that God is nearest."

She said that often the most that she and her tiny team could do in the reeking suffering was to let children die in peace. "We give as much comfort as possible, so that the child can at least die on a bed, with somebody caring for him."

"Children often suffer so much from attempts to prolong their lives, that it is better to stop trying, and let them die as quickly as possible, in as much comfort as possible."

She added: "Coming from Bangladesh to England is like coming from Hell to Heaven. I see well-fed children. I see people throwing away scraps of food that would be a feast out there. I believe that there is enough food in the well-fed part of the world to end starvation everywhere."

## ks discuss Cyprus pullback

1. Rendel  
April 29

Mr Clerides and Mr Denktash, the Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders, discussed modifications to the present dividing line at two closed sessions on Thursday which were held by Dr Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General.

Withdrawals from the Attila Line would mean any Greek Cypriot to return home with the eventual Greek of the island.

The significance of a meeting issued after the meeting this evening.

how the talks were proceeding and was evidently suggestions that he had come to inform the negotiators of an agreement for a high level Greco-Turkish meeting on Cyprus and the Aegean, but he did not deny that such a meeting is in preparation. This may well have decided the Turks to discuss withdrawals in Cyprus.

The Turks have made no moves to settle the new town of Famagusta or the area between the two roads from Nicosia to Famagusta. Of the 185,000 Greek Cypriot refugees some 85,000 came from these two areas.

All in all the prospects for an eventual settlement seem considerably brighter tonight.

which said that the question of displaced persons and some geographical aspects of a possible future settlement were examined. In order to examine further the suggestions put forward there will be private consultations tomorrow and the negotiators will meet again in closed session on Thursday morning. The atmosphere throughout today was described by a United Nations official as friendly and constructive.

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PARLIAMENT, April 29, 1975

## Over 4,500 pay beds in NHS hospitals: statement promised

House of Commons

MR HILARY MILLER (Bromsgrove and Redditch, C) asked the Secretary of State for Social Services in which NHS hospitals private practice was undertaken.

MRS BARBARA CASTLE (Blackburn, Lab)—Some 722 NHS hospitals in England are currently authorised to provide up to 4,574 pay beds for private patients. These hospitals and the number of beds authorised are listed in the *Hospitals and Health Services Year-Book*.

MR MILLER—When Mrs Castle comes to implement her plan for separating private and National Health Service medicine there is a risk that research will be impeded. Private practitioners attract to NHS hospitals only patients and money from abroad but a great deal of research and build up valuable teams of experience in the NHS. How does the proposal to provide for this when the separation takes place?

MRS CASTLE—He is not outlining a difficulty and danger, because research and work on patients from abroad, for example, can and does continue in specialised hospitals in this country. The difference is that the proposal does not go to private patients but to the hospital. That is the distinction.

MR NORMAN FOWLER, Opposition spokesman on Social Services (Sutton Coldfield, C)—Will the Government confirm that the abolition of pay beds is a policy which will require the NHS to add millions of pounds to the cost of the NHS, is it totally irrelevant to the needs of the NHS and will only please a kind of man who a few weeks ago sought to starve out patients in one London hospital? (Labour protest.)

MRS CASTLE—It does not lie in the mouths of Conservative MPs, who consistently refused to condemn the consultants' industrial action, now to raise questions of this kind. Without accepting any of his premises, I must ask him to await my statement.

MRS JILL KNIGHT (Birmingham, Edgbaston, C)—Will she state a decision as to stopping the unkind treatment in some NHS hospitals of patients who are there in private beds, solely because they are in those private beds? (Conservative cheers.)

Will she point out to those concerned that these people before even meeting the cost of their fees usually paid just as much as those in private beds towards the facilities and the treatment they are having?

MRS CASTLE—I would accept that the standard of care should be the same for all patients in the NHS hospitals, whether private or NHS. That applies both ways.

MR D. D. THOMAS (Merioneth, Plaid Cymru)—There are only 68 pay beds in the NHS hospitals of Wales. This has had no detrimental effect on the standard of the health service in Wales. (Labour cheers.)

MRS CASTLE—I accept that I am sure the same situation applies in Scotland. Perhaps one day England will catch up.

## Medical priority before ability to pay

MRS RENEE SHORT (Wolverhampton, North-East, Lab) asked the Secretary of State for Social Services what the Government's policy is regarding the likely growth in the number of private beds outside the National Health Service in the current financial year.

MRS BARBARA CASTLE—Although I have seen reports in the press and elsewhere of proposals for new private hospitals and an awareness that some local authorities have been asked to local planning authorities for permission to develop private hospitals, I have no information about the likely growth in the number of private beds outside the NHS during the current financial year, or by any particular date.

MRS SHORT—Is Mrs Castle aware that a firm called Allied Investment, which has a lot of backing from merchant bankers and private investors, is responsible for private hospitals in this country, runs a private insurance scheme and runs the largest nursing agency, which is creating difficulties in her department?

Does she not think that the active financial independence of the firm which she should not be given any help in furthering their activities abroad using the resources of her department?

MRS CASTLE—I am a little unclear about Mrs Short's question on the second part of her question but with regard to the first part I am aware of the developments to which she refers. I shall be content.

## Referendum disliked but need seen to pass Bill quickly

House of Lords

The Standard and Chartered Bank Bill and the Ocean Transport and Trading (Delivery Warrants) Bill were read the third time and passed.

The LORD CHANCELLOR, moving the second reading of the Referendum Bill, said it was of cardinal importance that the Bill should be passed as quickly as possible. He said the Bill was designed to produce a conclusive decision.

The House would have to consider whether the Bill was a good one. He said the Bill was designed to produce a conclusive decision. He said the Bill was designed to produce a conclusive decision.

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considering them with other questions which will need to be settled in the light of the Government's policy of separating private practice from the NHS.

MR PAUL DEAN (North Somerset, C)—Would Mrs Castle republish the comment just made by Mrs Short so that it would be free to spend their money on health, if they wish, and that doctors should be free to practise wherever they wished?

Does she not recognise that the uncertainties that exist and the disruptive action on pay beds in some NHS hospitals are bad for private practice, bad for NHS practice, and bad for patients?

Will she clear up the uncertainty by making certain statements to the Government's attention?

MRS CASTLE—I agree that disruption from any quarter is bad for the NHS. Government policy is to separate private practice from the NHS. I shall be making a statement before too long.

MR LOYDEN (Liverpool, Conservative)—The NHS is to be made available when required free medicine to every patient. (Conservative cheers.)

MRS CASTLE—I am a little unclear about Mrs Short's question on the second part of her question but with regard to the first part I am aware of the developments to which she refers. I shall be content.

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## Conference on married women doctors

MR DOUGLAS-MANN (Machyn and Mordet, Lab) asked whether, in view of actual and prospective shortages of medically qualified personnel in the NHS, the Secretary of State for Social Services was satisfied that enough was being done to recruit, encourage and ensure the effective deployment of women doctors.

MRS BARBARA CASTLE—No. I am anxious to extend the employment of women doctors in the NHS. A number of steps have already been taken to this end, including the extension of the women doctors' retention scheme which I announced in April.

I have decided, however, that the whole question should be reviewed to see what more can be done to recruit, encourage and ensure the effective deployment of women doctors.

MR DOUGLAS-MANN—Her attitude is encouraging. Is she satisfied that the BMA is doing all it can in this regard? Will she play a role in the financial operation of the NHS, but many people feel it is getting a little out of touch. It is recently said that the only woman doctor it has employed.

MRS CASTLE—Yes, I am aware. Naturally, as co-chairman of the Women's National Commission in the Department of Health, I deplore the reduction of any women in posts of responsibility.

MR STEEN (Liverpool, Conservative)—Will she encourage medical schools to take a greater percentage of British-born students who apply to become doctors, but get rejected? Will she have a programme of expansion planned to double the figure by 1980. One of the purposes is to enable this country to be self-sufficient in medical staff.

MRS CASTLE—Of course we attach enormous importance to the increase in the intake in our medical schools. We have a programme of expansion planned to double the figure by 1980. One of the purposes is to enable this country to be self-sufficient in medical staff.

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## Radical principles of land Bill a source of pride

MR JOHN SILKIN, Minister for Planning and Local Government (Leisham, Bedford, Lab), moving the second reading of the Community Land Bill, said that if they were to have a system of land which was as fair as the needs of the community and not the demands of the market place, the land the community bought for its social purposes and not for its real value of the land and not the value of the planning permission the community itself had given. In order that they might plan their towns and villages in the way that they needed and prioritised the price that the community should pay for the land was the real and not the inflated value of the land—the current use value of the land—should be used to arrive at that basis.

MR SILKIN—The Government wanted to ensure that the real value of the land, the value of the land for its social purposes and not for its real value of the land and not the value of the planning permission the community itself had given. In order that they might plan their towns and villages in the way that they needed and prioritised the price that the community should pay for the land was the real and not the inflated value of the land—the current use value of the land—should be used to arrive at that basis.

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## Scope for corruption: stagnation in development and housing feared

MR ROSSI, Opposition spokesman on housing and land (Barnes, Hammersmith, C) said that since the days when the Socialists were in power, the Government had been more than ready to take the land out of the hands of the community and put it in the hands of the State. He said the Government had been more than ready to take the land out of the hands of the community and put it in the hands of the State.

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# COMPANY STATEMENT



The new Ford Transcontinental. A full range of super-specified 34-42 tonne (GCW) articulated and rigid trucks. Strength you can depend on.

Ford sell more commercial vehicles in Europe than any other manufacturer. The new Ford Transcontinental completes the range. This new Ford truck allows you to carry the maximum legal weight virtually anywhere in Europe. It is available with a choice of 4 engines, and various axle arrangements.

With the Transcontinental design, Ford meets heavy-duty transport requirements well into the next decade.

#### Company philosophy

The Ford company philosophy towards commercial vehicles has always been to offer you precisely what you need... tailor-made for the

job. Ford offers you the right vehicle for your particular payload... from the new Escort 30 light van, right up to the massive new Ford Transcontinental, with all sizes of vans and trucks in between. You can buy Ford's basic engineering in chassis form and build your own body on the back, or choose from many different versions right off the Ford production line. A great many Ford components are interchangeable between different models, which simplifies parts replacement. Once again, this is just what the market needs.

#### Transcontinental concept

The new Ford Transcontinental reflects the company philosophy. No truck has been more thoroughly researched. And, according to Ford company principles, every single component in its manufacture has been selected from the

best of its type in the world. The engine is the well-tried Cummins NH/NT Series. The gearbox is the well-tried Eaton Fuller. The axles are by Rockwell. But Ford engineers have also looked ahead. Any hitherto-best component that might be less than you need in the 1980s has been re-designed from scratch.

We at Ford have worked closely with legislation planners and transport 'think tanks' right across Europe. Our new Transcontinental sums up their thinking, our thinking, and yours. We've done our homework, our benchmark, and a million miles of roadwork to give you the new Ford Transcontinental.

Strength you can depend on.

#### Service

No U.K. company has more Truck Specialist Dealers (repeat *Specialist*) than Ford. And no

organisation can offer better credit or fleet analysis services. When you make your next investment in transport, be economical. Buy Ford because only Ford gives you all that you need.

To: Ford Motor Company Ltd. (Dept. 84),  
40 Berkeley Square, London W1X 6AD.  
Please send me all the information you have on the new Ford Transcontinental truck range.

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Position in Company \_\_\_\_\_  
Company \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Trucks

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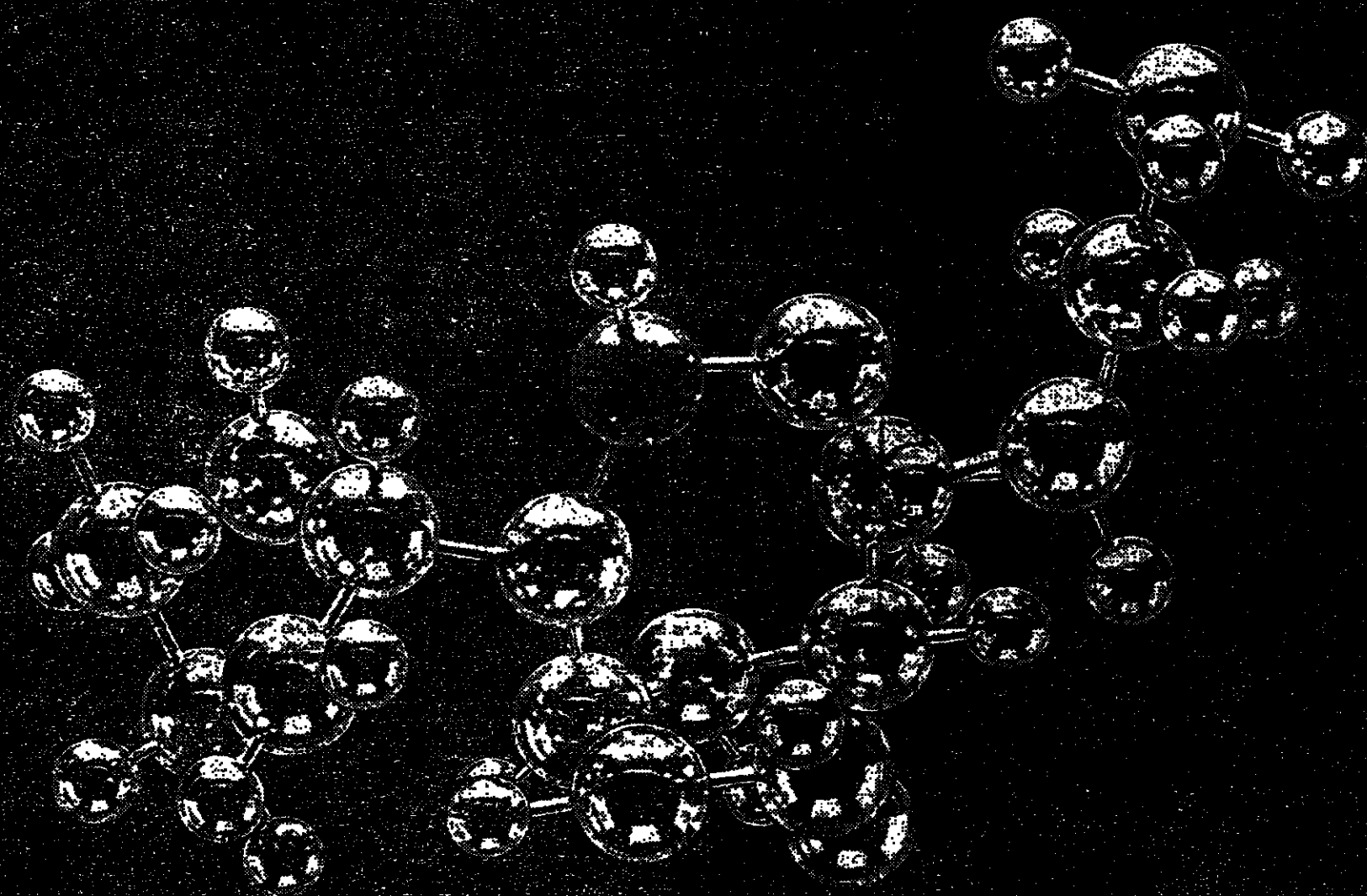














# The anatomy of a bank that's more than a bank

There was a time when the financial side of business was easy to manage. Not any more.

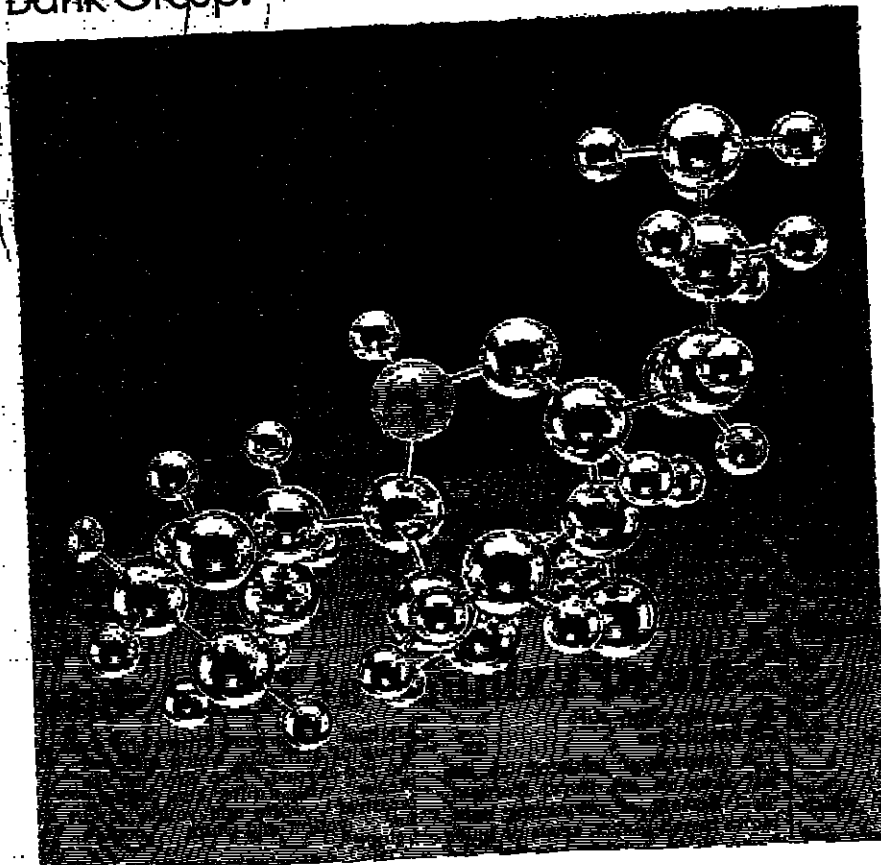
Your company and its interests are new, but the number and variety of financial services needed to maintain them grows all the time.

So it makes sense to deal with just one organization which can cope with your problems.

Which is where businessmen who bank with the Midland have a very considerable advantage.

They get all the traditional strengths of a great British bank. More than that, through their Midland managers they get

access to services provided by all the powerful companies that make up Midland Bank Group.



Services which include facilities for term loans, leasing, hire-purchase, merchant banking, insurance advisory services, international and export finance, travel, factoring, investment management, and trust services.

A complete range of facilities, in fact, to match company needs. And all available in the same direct way you're used to dealing—through your local bank manager in 3,000 Group branches throughout Britain.

Arrange to see him soon. He will advise you on the facilities you need and put you in touch with the right Group companies.

## A simpler way to tackle complex problems



### Midland Bank Group

**Principal trading companies:** Midland Bank Limited, Clydesdale Bank Limited, Clydesdale Bank Finance Corporation Limited, Clydesdale Bank Insurance Services Limited, Scottish Computer Services Limited, Northern Bank Limited, Northern Bank Development Corporation Limited, Northern Bank Executor and Trustee Company Limited, Northern Bank Trust Company Limited, Midland Bank Trust Company Limited, Midland Bank Finance Corporation Limited, Forward Trust Limited, Midland Montagu Leasing Limited, Griffin Factors Limited, Midland Bank Trust Corporation (Jersey) Limited, Midland Bank Trust Corporation (Guernsey) Limited, Midland Bank Insurance Services Limited, The Thomas Cook Group Limited, Thomas Cook Limited, Thomas Cook Overseas Limited, Thomas Cook Bankers Limited, Samuel Montagu & Co. Limited (Incorporating Drayton), Drayton Montagu Portfolio Management Limited, Northern Bank Finance Corporation Limited, Midland Montagu Industrial Finance Limited, Jersey International Bank of Commerce Limited, Bland Payne Holdings Limited, Bland Payne Limited, Bland Payne Reinsurance Brokers Limited, Bland Payne (UK) Limited, Southern Marine & Aviation Underwriters Inc, Bland Payne Australia Limited, Guyerzeller Zurmatt Bank AG.







ING  
GEMENT  
IN  
RUCTION

# Electric Board Is for speed-up er failure to et 1975 target

Owen  
Correspondent

Britain is now irreversible and it is essential that its remaining stages should be completed without further delay. This is necessary for consumers, for manufacturers, and in the general national interest, the Board adds.

"There should therefore be on the part of Government and of industry a statement of the original objective, a re-appraisal of the progress to date and firm planning of the remaining steps if increasing confusion, inefficiency and a handicap to our competitiveness are to be avoided."

In its recommendations the board wants the Government to make much more widely known the need for the change to be speeded up, and to state its determination to complete legislative action.

Purchasing officers in government departments and in all public and local authorities should be given firm instructions to specify their requirements in metric units. Statutory impediments to complete metrification should be removed by amendment of the Weights and Measures Acts.

Parliamentary approval should be sought for additional Orders to allow prescribed quantity goods to be sold in metric units.

Finally, the risk of familiarising the public with metric measures and their use in everyday life, and with the changes that are taking place in the consumer goods sector, should continue.

"Going metric. Progress in 1974", Report of the Metrication Board for 1974. Published by the Stationery Office at £1.20

## threat achine exports

land Industrial

tion which has hit a tool industry's sales for the past spreading to export according to Mr. M. J. M. managing director of Investment's machine.

employees yesterday support for our two fine tool companies of Churchill—comes selling. But there is a belief that the elements we are aware, which I think from shortage of so impinging on the risks.

in expect a dip from as customers and is reflected in the e for January and

cial supplement in n's newspaper Mr. l the home market tick up much before of next year, so IT's lay in winning new eastern Europe and East.

gave warning that per cent inflation inducing competitive port markets, particularly biggest machine Germany, had grown to 6 per cent.

Beckett, managing Ford of Britain, said has domestic motor suppliers were rap- the 20 per cent advantage they held of their European only a year ago.

## errard & National ISCOUNT COMPANY LIMITED

**Preliminary Statement**  
**29th April, 1975**

	Year Ended 5th April, 1975	Year Ended 5th April, 1974
Profit for the year		
providing for tax and a large transfer		
er reserves	£2,515,000	£1,180,000
dividend on each		
ary share of 25p	9.3305p	8.567625p
paid	2.8475p	2.625p
a total of	12.178p	11.192625p
ent to	74.42% (gross)	66.15% (gross)
	£000	£000
is absorbed:		
preference		
dividends paid	8	8
ordinary dividends		
aid and proposed	911	838
rease in carry		
ward	1,596	935

e proposed dividend on the ordinary shares of 25p will be paid to shareholders on the register at se of business on 16th May, 1975, is the maximum under current legislation.

# THE FINANCE BILL £5,000 fines for 'the lump' tax dodgers

By Business News Staff

Maximum penalties for building workers who try to fraudulently obtain tax exemption certificates are to be increased tenfold.

The Finance Bill, published yesterday (Tuesday) lays down a fine of up to £5,000 on summary conviction for those who make false statements or furnish false documents to obtain exemption certificates. The previous maximum was £500. The exemption certificates exempt bona-fide sub-contractors from having to have a sum deducted at source by contractors to pay their tax. Penalties for trading in certificates are also increased tenfold to £5,000 under the legislation.

The greatly increased penalties are part of a major tightening up operation by the tax authorities to try to plug abuses by building workers which have been costing the Inland Revenue at least £10m a year.

Later this year it is expected that all existing certificates will be withdrawn and that holders will have to re-apply under the most stringent criteria. Although it is not finally settled, it is thought that the new certificates may include identifying photographs.

Under the regulations it will be made impossible for so-called "lump" labour in the industry to avoid the provisions of the legislation by setting up as one-man companies. It is estimated that about 50,000 such companies have been set up over the years to get round the previous legislation.

The Government is expected shortly to introduce further legislation which will go a long way towards eradicating the "lump". The new proposals it is expected will set up a register of all building contractors which will not be open to the self-employed or those with bad tax records.

Interest is charged by the Inland Revenue on unpaid tax from the date when it becomes payable and due. But an appeal against the tax assessment has had the effect of postponing both the due date for the payment of tax and the date from which interest on unpaid tax, currently at the rate of 9 per cent, is charged.

The Finance Bill would reverse the process. In future, for tax assessments made after the Bill gets Royal Assent, tax will be payable from the date of assessment and interest will be charged from the "reckonable date", whether or not the assessment is appealed against.

When an appeal is finally decided, back interest will be charged on the amount of tax that is finally decided as payable.

**Welcome concession to oil companies**

Lack of any mention in the Finance Bill of limiting the use of capital allowances for expenditure by the oil companies outside the United Kingdom continental shelf is being interpreted by the industry as a welcome concession.

The vague threat of action against these capital allowances in the Government White Paper on oil policy last July has been fiercely contested by the companies in a series of private discussions with the Government over the past eight months.

**Relief on stock for small businesses**

As promised, small businesses and partnerships will qualify for tax relief on stock appreciation, backdated for two years to bring them into line with the existing arrangements.

**Loophole on stock dividends closed**

As foreshadowed in the Budget, shareholders who accept a scrip alternative in lieu of a cash dividend will be

## Dublin sets out terms for offshore oil fields

Mr. Justin Keating, the Irish Minister of Industry and Commerce, yesterday announced the new government terms for offshore oil and gas exploration.

The state will retain a right to opt for up to 50 per cent equity participation in any exploration company, and company taxation will be levied at 50 per cent on profits.

Terms apply to exclusive licences for future oil and gas exploration in the Irish area of the continental shelf. Royalties will be levied on offshore oil production on a sliding scale.

These will range from a minimum 8 per cent to a maximum of 16 per cent depending on the volume of production from any particular field.

It is proposed that 12 1/2 per cent royalty rate will apply to any natural gas production.

Mr. Keating said yesterday that the state's take from any field would amount to four-fifths of its value, taking into account equity participation, taxation, royalties and licensing fees.

At the press conference at which he made his announcement, Mr. Keating said these terms were closely comparable with those applied by the Danes for the area west of Greenland. It is made clear that the new terms will not be applicable to Marathon Petroleum.

This concern holds exclusive exploration licences in regard to some areas off the Irish coast, and the terms with them are already agreed and will remain in force until 1980.

Blocks being drilled by Esso under a farm out agreement with Marathon are also covered under the exclusion terms.

The Irish government is looking, according to Mr. Keating, at many opportunities offered by offshore oil production for manufacturing and servicing.

## Papermakers worried by big rise in water charges

By Edward Townsend

Big increases in abstraction charges being imposed by regional water authorities are causing growing concern among Britain's papermakers who said yesterday that they could be placed in a serious position.

The British Paper and Board Industry Federation singled out the Welsh National Water Development Authority for particular criticism.

One Welsh paper mill, thought to be Wiggins Teape

mill in Cardiff, is said to have seen its water bill increase from £665 last year to £66,860 for 1975. The same mill was expected to see its bill for metered water rise by £30,000 this year.

The Welsh authority, one of the 10 newly created water undertakings in England and Wales, said that abstraction charges in 1974-75 brought in £660,000. In the current year £6m was needed to cover costs. The authority has inherited debts of £135m.

## French hopeful of keeping jobless below million

Paris, April 29.—M. Jean-Pierre Fourcade, the French finance minister, said unemployment in France could total 1 million by the end of the year but did not think that figure would be reached.

Speaking in a television interview M. Fourcade said the scale of economic recession in France and the western world had been underestimated in 1974.

Unemployment in France is at present more than 800,000. The minister expressed irritation at continuing price increases in the French car industry and threatened to end the industry's freedom in price fixing.—Reuter.

## Govan launches £4m freighter for Kuwait

Govan Shipbuilders, the Government-financed yard formed out of the liquidated Upper Clyde Shipbuilders, yesterday launched the sixth of the £65m 13-ship order for the Kuwait Shipping Co. She was the IBN Tufail, a general cargo vessel of 23,000 dwt tons valued at £4.2m and due for delivery on June 20.

## UK 'contingency' contracts with Efta

Geneva, April 29.—What could be interpreted as possible contingency contracts with Efta have been made here over the past two days by Mr. Kit Cope and Mr. Stuart Douglas of the CBI and Mr. W. A. Newsome (Association of Chambers of Commerce), when they met delegates attending the seven-nation Efta consultative committee here.

## Speculation over MLR halts share gains

Though speculation that there might be an increase in MLR on Friday left share prices falling in the final half hour of trading, substantial gains were recorded over a broad front on the London stock market yesterday.

But at just over 7,800 the number of bargains marked was still light and much of the trading was said to be of the professional variety. Dealers reported that there was some interest, from the institutions, but only on a limited scale and not among the leading industrial shares.

After a quiet start the FT index had gained more than 9 points at noon and 10.9 points by 3 pm. But the easier tone at the end clipped the advance to 6 points at the close, at 333.3. This was the first advance made in the past five days' trading.

The gilt-edged market tended to take a similar route and again the tone was easier at the end although the session was steadier than it has been in recent days.

After an initial decline "shorts" ran ahead overnight levels while longs in a mixed session were left ultimately at 1/2 point easier.

## Chrysler offer \$200 rebate

Detroit, April 29.—Chrysler Corporation will give \$200 (about £85) rebates to buyers of new Dodge and Plymouth compact cars and on three small truck models from Thursday.

The sales campaign, which is not so far being matched by other car manufacturers, is planned for the whole of May.

Mr. R. D. McLaughlin, Chrysler's sales vice-president, said the company hoped the rebates would boost sales. He added: "April sales are such that we need a stimulant."—AP-Dow Jones.

## ICI wins injunction against company

ICI Pharmaceuticals and the Belgian company, Janssen Pharmaceutica announced last night that they had obtained an injunction which damages and costs in the High Court in Belfast against Newbrook Laboratories of Newry and Mr. Edward Haughey, its managing director. The injunction relates to chemicals used in two products marketed by ICI and patented by Janssen, and sold to United Kingdom farmers to treat worm diseases in cattle and sheep.

## How the markets moved

The Times Index: 136.80 +2.06  
FT Index: 333.9 +6.0

Rises	Falls	THE POUND
Ass Port Cement 7p to 15 3/4p	Haggas 18p to 23 1/2p	Bank buys
Barclays Bk 8p to 28 1/2p	Marlin Black 10p to 23p	Bank sells
Bentley 5p to 24 1/2p	Rio Tinto 10p to 18 1/2p	Australia 5 1/2
Brit Sugar 20p to 30 1/2p	Royal Ind 14p to 20 1/2p	Austria Sch 41.00
EMI 5p to 14 1/2p	Sun Alliance 12p to 13 1/2p	Belgium 87.00
Finland 15p to 24 1/2p	Traveller 10p to 13 1/2p	Canada 5 1/2
GN 5p to 23 1/2p	Unilever 11p to 38 1/2p	Denmark Kr 13.20
		Finland Mkk 8.55
		France Fr 9.95
		Germany DM 5.75
		Greece Dr 21.00
		Italy L 151.00
		Japan Yn 715.70
		Netherlands G 3.75
		Norway Kr 17.10
		Portugal Esc 59.75
		S Africa Rand 1.82
		Spain Pes 134.90
		Sweden Kr 9.63
		Switzerland Fr 6.15
		US \$ 2.39
		Yugoslavia Ddr 40.50

Equities were strong but easier at the close.

Gilt-edged securities had a steadier session.

Sterling rose by 95 points to 255.75 from 254.80. The "effective" devaluation rate was 22.6 per cent.

Commodities: Reuters' index was 2 points lower yesterday at 1,080.1.

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## The shake-up in Wall Street commission rates —page 23

## Government pledge on planning agreements

By Philip Webster  
Parliamentary Staff

The planning agreement system envisaged under the Industry Bill would not be used to compel insurance companies or pension funds to invest in industrial companies, Mr. Meacher, Under Secretary of State for Industry, said yesterday.

Planning agreements would be wholly voluntary, he told the Commons standing committee considering the Bill.

Referring to earlier comments by Mr. Meacher that the Government did not wish to exclude from the planning agreement system any sectors of the economy which might be appropriate, Mr. John Scaley, Conservative MP for Tonbridge and Malling, said: "Presumably this might also include insurance companies and companies engaged in the investment of pension funds."

He asked whether there was any relationship between the extension of planning agreements and the agreement last week by Mr. Benn, Secretary of State for India, to the effect that the long-term investment funds from the insurance industry and pensions industry should be channelled into industrial development.

Mr. Stanley said this had been denied by the Prime Minister. He added: "Therefore I hope we will secure from Mr. Meacher a categorical statement and assurance that there is no intention of extending the planning agreement system to insurance companies and pension funds and using the system as a means of coercing these companies and funds into making investments in industrial companies which they would not otherwise choose to make."

Mr. Meacher said the statement to which Mr. Stanley had alluded was a policy document. It was not a policy document of the Government, and to that extent it remained a matter for discussion and consultation.

He said: "I can give a complete assurance that planning agreements are wholly voluntary and that they will not be used to compel insurance companies or indeed any other kinds of companies to act in any particular way. There is no intention of extending the planning agreement system to insurance companies and pension funds and using the system as a means of coercing these companies and funds into making investments in industrial companies which they would not otherwise choose to make."

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## Ruling on 'bed and breakfast' dealings

Companies that establish a loss on shareholdings for capital gains tax purposes through "bed and breakfast" transactions will now have to wait a month between disposal and acquisition. If the transaction is effected through any other medium than the Stock Exchange or Arel, the prescribed gap is six months.

## BSC likely to give quick reply to Mr Benn on cutback plans

By Peter Hill

The British Steel Corporation is expected to submit its replies to questions raised by Mr. Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Industry on the BSC's labour cutback plans by the end of the week.

Mr. Benn's questionnaire follows his meeting with Sir Monty Finniston, the state steel undertaking's chairman. Sir Monty was asked to explain his comments last week on the need to achieve dramatic productivity improvements and shed thousands from its 220,000 strong labour force.

A reply before the weekend would mean that the BSC's policy would be set out in time for the meeting next Monday between the TUC steel industry committee and senior BSC executives.

Mr. Benn has asked for the Corporation's "considered views" on the Government's role in the review of the BSC's plant closure programme.

The BSC is also being asked to specify the number of temporary and permanent redundancies—separate from those associated with the closure programme—envisaged at BSC plants, and a timetable setting out how these might build up.

The Minister also asked for the Board's view of the correct role of Government in respect of the BSC; and of the BSC in relation to Government.

Finally, the BSC is asked to outline how best the Government's election pledge to "socialise existing nationalised industries" might be realized in respect of the BSC.

Mr. Benn indicated that after the Corporation's reply, he would expect further talks to "establish a really good open working relationship between a crucial nationalized industry and a Government that wants it to succeed."

Sir Monty will not be present at next Monday's meeting with the TUC steel representatives. Labour matters have been in the hands of Mr. Bob Scholev, BSC chief executive, who has led the BSC team on the previous two such meetings.

## GKN's £7m investment

A £7m two-year investment plan was announced yesterday by the GKN group for its forging companies, which manufacture components for the motor and aerospace industries.

### SELF EMPLOYED?

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T15

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## 25 pc VAT protests by UK boat builders

By Stewart Tendler

A veteran from the Dunkirk evacuation fleet will chug down the Thames today to deliver a petition to the Commons from Britain's boat builders protesting against the new VAT level of 25 per cent.

Thames, a 32ft cabin cruiser was owned by Mr Douglas Tough, who helped to organize the fleet of small boats which crossed the Channel in 1940. The boat has been lent to the Ship and Boat Builders' National Federation to deliver their petition to Rear-Admiral M. C. Morgan-Giles, Conservative MP for Winchester, at Westminster pier, near the Houses of Parliament.

Members of the federation and boat enthusiasts will hold their demonstration at the capital towns and cities of counties where sailing is popular.

At a press conference yesterday the federation put forward its arguments against the new VAT levy which comes into force tomorrow. Mr David Sanders, the federation's president, expounded the arguments against Mr Healey's proposal.

He said boats were built for customers in this country with progress payments as construction proceeded. Exported vessels were paid for after delivery, which often meant delays in receiving the money.

Mr Sanders said: "We need a viable home industry if we are going to export."

The federation put its case to ministers before the Budget and thought its arguments had found some favour.

## Commission again blames heavier wage costs for 20pc price inflation

By David Young

In its latest quarterly report the Price Commission has once again laid the blame for rising prices—its says they are going up "much too fast"—on heavier labour costs.

The report, the commission's first to cover a full three-month period under Stage Four, says that its figures show inflation to be running at more than 20 per cent a year while wage rates have advanced by 29 per cent in the 12 months ended February 28.

Although the report covers the three months until then, it is pointed out that the rate of inflation is still on the upswing.

"Taking industry as a whole the primary factor causing price rises is—and can only be—rising labour costs," it stated. Materials and fuel purchases by manufacturing industry fell by 2.5 per cent in the three-month period, thus reducing the increase in the 12 months to February this year to 2.3 per cent.

The commission's own index of world commodity prices fell by 18.3 per cent during the quarter, making a total reduction for the year of 24.1 per cent.

### Aznar Line cruise ship sold to Arabs

Aznar Line's passenger-freight liner Monte Umbo, which has carried more than 30,000 people on sunshine holidays from Liverpool since 1968, sailed on her final cruise voyage from the port yesterday. The vessel has been sold for an undisclosed sum to Lebanese buyers.

"In so far as rates and taxes reflect increases in expenditure by local and central government these increases in expenditure are themselves due in large measure to increased wage and salary costs," the report adds. "Interest rates are now falling. Until very recently rents were frozen, and they are in any event a small part of total costs. Profit margins have fallen heavily compared with a year ago, and this would have reduced, not increased, the rise in prices."

The commission says that these factors reinforce its views. In March to May, 1974, 15 per cent of cost increases were directly attributable to wage rises. In the September to November quarter this figure had risen to 33 per cent and in the quarter under review by the commission the proportion has fallen to 20 per cent.

However, the commission explains that this is an artificial figure because of the heavy increases in oil costs during the quarter, and excluding oil prices it would have remained at more than 30 per cent.

On profits, the report shows that the large Category One companies during the quarter

achieved 50.2 per cent of their reference levels, compared with 52.4 per cent in the previous quarter and 71.4 per cent a year ago.

The Category Two companies achieved 57.8 per cent of levels, compared with 54.3 per cent in previous quarter.

The changes in the Stage Four code designed to halt the erosion of profits were very much needed.

During the period of the report the commission modified, rejected or secured the withdrawal of 492 price rise applications from the larger companies leading to a reduction in the increases of £270m a year. Of this, £75m represented a reduction in the cost of oil price rises during December.

In addition, companies which had exceeded their profit margin levels were ordered to reduce prices or absorb costs, resulting in a further £3.3m saving.

In money terms, £3,250m worth of price increases were notified to the commission during the quarter by the large category one companies—£1,430m of it by the nationalized industries.

### West German trade surplus narrows

Wiesbaden, April 29.—West Germany recorded a March trade surplus of DM3,447m (161.4m) against surpluses of DM3,495m in February and DM4,631m a year earlier. Exports in March totalled DM17,538m against DM17,746m in February. Imports were DM14,091m, against DM14,251m

### Swiss bank credits for key exporters

Zurich, April 29.—The Swiss National Bank confirmed that it has reached agreement with commercial banks to ease liquidity difficulties in various export sectors and to maintain job security. Under the agreement with the Swiss bankers' association, banks will provide preferential export credit treatment

## Occidental geared up for shale oil programme

From Frank Vogl

Los Angeles, April 29

Occidental Petroleum Corporation is likely to be the first company in the world to produce oil from shale rock on a large and commercially profitable scale.

The company will take a final decision on whether to go ahead with large scale production by the autumn at the latest. And Dr Armand Hammer, chairman of Occidental, and several of the company's top executives and engineers, left here doubt in interviews here and in Colorado that the company will give the green light to a fifty thousand barrel-a-day oil shale plant.

Dr Hammer believes that this plant, together with developments by other companies using licences from Occidental for its unique subsurface oil shale processing system, will see production of one million barrels a day by 1980.

Building a 50,000 barrels-a-day plant will cost an estimated \$150m to \$200m, Dr Hammer revealed, and the likely total production cost per barrel about \$5 to \$6.

Dr Hammer said oil shale production would be profitable without government subsidies or price supports.

Dr Donald Garrett, Occidental's executive vice-president for research and development, sees output of at least three million barrels a day by 1985. "These are conservative estimates and this somewhat unusual caution by Occidental reflects the widespread claim in the oil industry that Dr Hammer has been greatly exaggerating the prospects for his company."

But Occidental has a vast experimental project going on in Colorado, using huge mine tunnels and shafts, 230 employees, construction of new roads and permanent buildings in the midst of the Rocky Mountains and, according to Dr Hammer, a \$25m investment so far.

A big factor favouring Occidental is that government officials appear to be giving strong support to the Occidental system, noting that it is far more acceptable from an environmental viewpoint than any of the oil shale processing systems.

Occidental expects to recoup much of the costs through the sale of its licenses. The extent to which other companies purchase these licenses, rather than Occidental's plant plan alone, will determine the scale of shale oil output.

Executives in other oil companies have expressed scepticism about Occidental's shale venture. Nevertheless, they are watching it closely.

Patricia Tisdall

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Post Office price increases fail to solve its problems

From Mr D. R. Vickers

Sir, As revealed by your Industrial Editor (April 28), the Post Office has been unpleasantly surprised to find their recent massive price increase may not after all promise a solution to their financial troubles.

This is precisely what my association predicted when the increases were first announced. The Post Office has now found that demand for its postal services is much more elastic than they supposed.

Already, total postal volume appears to have dropped by substantially more than the 8 per cent forecast. Within this overall decline, there has been a shift of 20 to 30 per cent from first to second class post. Taken together, these trends point to a shortfall of up to £50m in the current year's postal revenue—and this before any public assessment has been made of the long-term effects of the increased prices on the Post Office's largest customers.

We must now surely ask the question: is there any price level at which the Post Office can offer an acceptable standard of service and make a profit? There is no economic law that says such a thing is necessarily achievable.

As far as large commercial users are concerned, when postal prices reach a certain level in relation to the cost of press advertising, door-to-door distribution, carrier parcel service, and so forth, then a massive switch to alternative modes is inevitable. Since operating costs do not decline in step with decreases in volume, the result will be an exponential series of price increases, and a total strangling of demand.

What is required is a thorough-going investigation of postal affairs—not another attempt to see if the Post Office is efficiently managed within its terms of reference, but a hard look at the terms themselves: are we asking of Post

Office management that which cannot be performed? The postal service is as much a part of the infrastructure of the industrial society as is the road network, or the education system. No one has suggested that these facilities be paid for on a unit-of-use basis. Why then should the postal service be mutilated on this preposterous bed?

Yours faithfully,  
D. R. VICKERS, Director,  
Association of Mail Order Publishers,  
1 New Burlington Street,  
London, W1

From Mr Reg Piggott  
Sir, The Post Office is being priced out of existence. I thought that the whole philosophy behind nationalized enterprises and public corporations was that the service would be improved and put within reach of everyone.

Take ourselves for example. We transmit manuscripts, drawings, etc. between ourselves, authors, and publishers involving some 200,300 weighty parcels each year.

Five years ago our annual postal bill for registered parcels and packets was less than £100,000. Now, the identical number of parcels (with the weight pruned as far as possible) sent via registered mail costs over seven hundred pounds or £2.50 per unit, an increase of 500 per cent.

Obviously we are now looking at other ways to send parcels, even self delivery. If the Post Office does not soon realise the folly of its ways it will be left with nothing to deliver except its own telephone bills (if any are still in use). Perhaps it should call in the business consultants before it is too late?

Yours sincerely,  
REG PIGGOTT,  
81 Larchfield Avenue,  
Newtown Mearns,  
Glasgow,  
Scotland.

### Fudging the Patent Office books

From Mr W. R. Farwell

Sir, The cause of the rise in Patent Office fees is not far to seek: it is Government fudging of the books to provide more revenue.

In 1971, out of a total cost of £6.6m for running the office, £760,000 was for accommodation, a figure comparable with those for a number of years previously. In 1972, the figures were £7.4m and £970,000. In 1973 the figure for accommodation, in a total of £8.2m was £2.2m. These are published figures from the Comptroller's annual report.

Over this period the accommodation used by the office, consisting of the Government-owned Patent Office building and parts of several commercial office blocks, has not increased greatly. In the rent freeze, commercial rents could not have been raised, and it is clear that the rent imputed to the Patent Office for a building

actually costing it nothing to rent has been drastically raised. In purported pursuance therefore of the established and, in my view, sound policy that the office's services to the public should be self-financing, industry and private inventors were taxed an arbitrary £1.3m extra in 1973, and no doubt the same or more in 1974 and 1975.

A private rent increase of this order would raise a howl in Westminster to be heard from St Paul. So would the doubling of charges by private business.

Industry, and private inventors, should see that there is sufficient protest for the official masters of the Patent Office to be forced to rescind the current increases in fees. Yours faithfully,  
W. R. FARWELL,  
Black Lake House,  
Wardley,  
Milland,  
Hampshire,  
April 22.

### VAT will force woodmen to spare that tree

From Mr N. F. W. Dyckhoff  
Sir, Woodmen spare that tree is an ancient admonition now to be given fiscal force. The chainsaw has been classed among powered garden tools and subjected to 25 per cent VAT.

We have become accustomed to White Papers proposing to prevent the planting of tree and should not be surprised to a proposal—superficially contradictory as it may appear—to prevent their being felled by putting the woodman out of business.

But are our legislators aware of the constraints of the situation? Even if one does remove the economic raison d'être of tree it will in due course of old age anyway.

Yours faithfully,  
NIGEL F. W. DYCKHOFF,  
Chairman,  
Forestry Limited,  
Cheddar, Somerset.

From Mrs Elizabeth Baxter  
Sir, With reference to Mr P. Crossman's letter in *The Times* yesterday he has surely forgotten that estimating, entering and invoicing VAT payments also takes time. In my case this amounts to 5 hours in the week. Completing the quarter returns only takes another 14 hours, but the total for the quarter amounts to 57 hours quite a lot of unpaid labour exacted from a busy employed person.

As my turnover is small, much of my work done overseas and zero-rated, the actual time collected is small, but when promptly invested in building society it does not earn enough to cover the office overheads for this working time.

I agree that the VAT inspectors who have so far visited me have been courteous and helpful, but why is it necessary if the main collection office send out so readily threatened and even terrifying letters? delayed return (one of mine was held up in the Christmas mail) or a slight error on my part leads to a threat of prosecution. Hardly a racine way of treating someone who gives so much unpaid labour so far without complaint. Your faithfully,  
ELIZABETH BAXTER,  
9 Westwood Park Road,  
Peterborough.

### Interest rates

From Mr Patrick Streeter  
Sir, The question of how are to invest money in the equipment of British industry has in no way been answered in the recent Budget. Part of the answer, I believe, lies in the use of variable interest rates as practised on the Continent. The banks should be directed to lend at low rates for industrial investment, high rates for loans to individuals and much higher rates for property investment. This would enable investment, the lifeblood of industry, to be channelled where it is really needed. Yours faithfully,  
PATRICK STREETER,  
8 Kelsio Place,  
London, W8.

## 'Schh' originators to promote Canada Dry

Canada Dry (UK), the Bass Charrington owned soft drinks company, starts a £500,000 advertising bid for a larger share of the mixer drinks market this week. The campaign promotes dry ginger ale in three commercials appearing nationally. In addition, it includes over 2,000 posters.

The agency is Ogilvy Benson & Mather, responsible several years ago for devising the well known "Secret of . . . Schh" slogan for Schweppes, Canada Dry's main competitor. The Schweppes account is with J. Walter Thompson.

Unlike Schweppes, Canada Dry is concentrating its advertising on a single main product, its dry ginger ale. This it says will "cement brand confidence in that line and also build an awareness of the general acceptability of their tonic waters and other mixers."

Canada Dry (UK) holds an exclusive franchise from the

### Advertising & marketing

Canada Dry Corporation of New York for manufacturing and selling its products in Great Britain and the Channel Islands. Advertising costs in the United Kingdom are shared with the American company.

### £1.8m energy budget

The Government's energy conservation advertising campaign is to continue throughout the summer with an expenditure between this month and September estimated at around £1.8m. About half this amount will be spent on persuading people to improve the insulation of their homes and advising them. It includes a leaflet giving 57 energy saving hints to householders.

In addition to television commercials the campaign will include press advertisements and posters and has been devised by the Department of Energy's Information Directorate, the Central Office of Information and advertising agents, Young & Rubicam.

### Revenue improves

Despite widespread pessimism, improvements in advertising expenditure continue to be maintained. The net revenue figures for March issued by the Independent Television Companies Association, which are generally regarded as a fairly accurate indicator for the industry as a whole, show a rise of about 37 per cent on the same month last year. The broader-based statistics compiled by Media Expenditure Analysis from rate card prices show a similar upward trend.

The MEAL results which cover press as well as television show a 19 per cent increase compared with March 1974.

### Mail order complaints

Mail order advertisements continue to generate the majority of complaints examined by the Advertising Standards Authority. The latest report issued by the ASA shows that 64 out of the total of 130 complaints concerned mail order houses. In cases not related to mail order advertising, most objections were that the advertisement was thought to be misleading. There were only three complaints on moral grounds.

Following ASA intervention 75 per cent of the mail order complainants either received their money back or were supplied with the goods they had ordered.

Patricia Tisdall

## Ford sit-in may make 5,000 idle

By Paul Routledge

Labour Editor

Several hundred workers at Ford's main Dagenham plant yesterday began a sit-in over a manning dispute, and 5,000 men are likely to be laid off without pay by the end of the week as a result.

Occupation of the body plant followed a mass meeting at which the men voted about 120 to 80, with many abstentions, to take a militant line over the decision to reduce the number of men engaged on door-hanging from 26 to 18.

The company argues that the revised manning schedule is consistent with the current pay and conditions agreement, which allows for the abolition of over-manning on production lines.

The trouble began last week when the door hangers on night shift walked out rather than accept the new manning level. Now that they have been joined by the day shift, work at Dagenham will gradually come to a halt. About one-fifth of Dagenham's 25,000 workers—who are already on a four-day week because of the recession in the motor trade—will be laid off by Friday.

After the vote to occupy the body plant, about 50 pickets were posted inside the four gates to prevent the movement of vehicles, though individuals were allowed through. The dispute is unofficial.

The Dagenham occupation follows a similar incident at the firm's Swansea axle factory, it. W. Shakespeare writes: "British Leyland car production is again hit by labour troubles. Yesterday all production of Mini cars at the Longbridge plant in Birmingham was stopped and 1,800 workers laid off together with another 900 men at the Castle Bromwich body plant. The trouble arises from a strike by 700 clerical workers."

## Ford launches heaviest truck

Ford has closed the last gap in its commercial vehicle range with the launching today of its first super-heavy truck, the Transcontinental, to be built in Holland. It is designed to operate from 32 to 42 tonnes, and has cost more than £16m to develop and to provide sales and servicing outlets throughout Europe.

The Transcontinental is being built at the former Amsterdam Cortina plant, but 55 per cent of its components in value come from Britain. It is powered by a Cummins diesel engine made in Scotland.

Starting at £12,428, the Transcontinental is about £1,000 more expensive than most of its competitors. Ford already has 400 firm orders—half from British operators.



## English Property Corporation Limited

A leading international property investment and development group active in the United Kingdom, Canada, the United States, Belgium and France.

Highlights from the annual statement of the Chairman, Sir Brian Mountain, Bt.

"Our past year has not been entirely without achievement and the future offers us a number of encouraging factors for improvement of our company's position. During the past 18 months we have repaid virtually all our short term facilities with the exception of facilities from the clearing banks. Not only have we been able to do this without undue difficulty but we have, in addition, invested substantial further sums towards the completion of our development programme."

"We have invested in excess of £115 million in the acquisition and development of property. £103 million of this expenditure has been funded by additional borrowing, £94 million long term and £11 million medium term. There has been no increase in short term borrowings."

"Our property disposal programme in the United Kingdom continues to meet with considerable success. We are continuing to achieve an aggregate surplus over current book value and we have also been able to improve the management aspects of our portfolio by reducing the number of our United Kingdom properties by approximately 30% during the past 2 years."

"High interest rates affected us adversely overseas as well as in the United Kingdom. These interest costs have since been alleviated, not only by a reduction in rates but by a substantial reduction in variable rate borrowing. Based on 31st October, 1974 variable rate borrowings, a 1% reduction in interest rates saves the company approximately £1.5 million per annum."

This saving amounts to a very material sum of money in the context of falls up to 3% in annual rates over the past six months, which will help earnings and reduce the cost of developments."

"Reference has been made to the importance of our massive overseas portfolio but we must not overlook the value of the United Kingdom portfolio, which is expected to contribute very substantially to an improvement in net investment income and consequently net profits. At rental levels current on 1st April, 1975, we estimate that our net annual rents receivable from our existing investment portfolio in the United Kingdom will be, at 31st October, 1977, some 50% above the levels receivable at 31st October, 1974. The equivalent figures for 31st October, 1978 show a 70% increase and by 31st October, 1979 the increase is 100%, which would add an additional £8.5 million to net pretax profits in a full year."

"The ground work has been laid for a substantial advance in the company's profitability which is not expected to be evidenced during the current year but will begin to show real benefits during 1976. Investment in property is a long term investment and this fact has been uppermost in the minds of your directors in considering the best interests of the shareholders."

"It is precisely times such as these that highlight the strength of our policy in investing in prime commercial properties in various parts of the world. Our areas of investment, in order of importance by reference to current involvement, are Canada, the United Kingdom (and the Republic of Ireland), United States, Belgium and France."

Copies of the annual report for the year ended 31st October, 1974 may be obtained from the Secretary,

English Property Corporation Limited

16 Grosvenor Street London W1X 0DN Tel: 01-499 0444

Telex: ENGPOR LDN 24906 Cables: ENGPOR LONDON W1



## APV HOLDINGS LIMITED

	1974	1973
Sales	£000	£000
Profit before tax	79,500	66,600
Profit after tax	6,549	5,521
Average capital employed	40,214	34,014
Return on capital	19.5%	18.7%
Earnings per 50p share	26.53p	23.78p
Ordinary dividend per 50p share	8.7058p	7.66p

- Record results—1974 being 11th successive year of growth.
- Overseas companies increased their earnings by 25%, and provided 60% of group profit.
- Exports increased by 29%.
- 44% of exports went to EEC.

### APV HOLDINGS LIMITED

P.O. Box No. 4, Crawley, West Sussex RH10 2QB

The Group acts as process engineers, plant manufacturers, fabricators and steel foundries particularly to the brewery, dairy, food, chemical and petroleum industries.

## George Spencer Group

Knitwear, Jerseywear, Underwear and Fabrics

Extracts from Mr. H. G. Wingrove's Review

The forty-sixth Annual General Meeting was held on 28th April 1975 in Nottingham

Although the energy crisis in the early part of 1974 caused considerable concern I am pleased to report record pre-tax earnings for a twelve month period of £563,463. This compares with £518,049 earned in the previous 12 months which, unusually, amounted to £479,883 and so over a comparable period profits advanced by 17.4%.

We spent £381,538 on capital items and our borrowings went up to £334,235 showing an increase over last year of £24,178. This upward trend was to be expected with all the problems of inflation and punitive legislation with which industry had to contend.

### Higher Dividend

I am sure however that shareholders will be pleased with our profit performance which has justified an increase in the dividend on the Ordinary Share Capital and Treasury approval was obtained to pay a further 12.1%. This had the effect of raising

the total dividend and tax credit per share from 3.281p to 3.857p.

**The Outlook**  
In common with most of our industry we are concerned about profitability which is becoming increasingly hard to earn and liquidity, which under present legislation, is difficult to maintain at a satisfactory level. Nevertheless the reputation and goodwill of your Company is high and continues to increase year by year.

As an independent public group we have a considerable part to play in balancing the market forces and in providing some choice for trade buyers and consumers alike. We believe our long term business and share value prospects are excellent but it would seem that for the time being we must overcome patience until the advance conditions prevailing return to something like normal and we can continue our progress.

Deacons

Copies of the Report available on request from the Secretary, George Spencer Limited, Basford, Nottingham.



BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

# Unresolved problems at English Property

Property Corporation makes on all but development of the United Kingdom, enjoying some success in off-shore property, sheet valuations, and a reduction in share price from £138 to £100, the company has been heavily criticised for its performance in the last year.



Sir Brian Mountain, chairman of English Property, has no substantial advance this year.

revenue position, £7m to £4.82m last year, as against £18.2m—against the development of the United Kingdom, enjoying some success in off-shore property, sheet valuations, and a reduction in share price from £138 to £100, the company has been heavily criticised for its performance in the last year.

he group's satisfaction in short-term gains (at £81.4m, as against £58.5m in 1974) has been a disappointment to many shareholders. Although the group's share price has risen from £100 to £114, the company has been heavily criticised for its performance in the last year.

new surprises for the sector in yesterday's Bill. Proposals to set up a tax payable by the company, rather than the shareholders, are expected to be a major factor in the company's performance in the last year.

At first sight, that if a company is to pay a dividend one year but has a scrip issue instead (like Ultramar, for instance), its shareholders would not be within the scope of the Bill.

As far as the latter goes, you cannot be a shareholder with a friend: the prescribed period for stock exchange or Airtel transactions is one month, but any attempt to arrange a buy-back outside the main market will fall into an uncomfortably long six-month period.

Midland-Yorkshire Pulling out the stops. Croda International already has 38 per cent of Midland-Yorkshire Holdings but it looks as if it may still have to raise its offer of 360p a share in cash or 420p in its own shares to clinch the deal. This is more likely than letting the bid fail.

reserves at a record level and more than twice the level of the depressed figures of the previous two years. To what extent the group's conservative approach to disclosure reflects a traditional prudence rather than any uncertainty about the current year is another matter.

Antony Gibbs After the losses. Antony Gibbs had already given good warning that its 10-month accounts for the year ended December were going to be marred by the running losses and rationalisation costs of the Personal Financial Planning subsidiary, and so it comes as no surprise that the group's losses in this area, in fact, at £897,000 for the period, with about one-third attributable to trading losses and the remaining two-thirds largely attributable to the rationalisation and pruning of the group's operations.

As for the rest of the group, there is a net disclosed profit of £402,000 for the 18 months against £339,000 for the previous 12 months—an annualisation of the former figure to around £270,000 apparently giving a fair indication of the trend. Just how much has been transferred to inner reserves is a matter for conjecture, but it looks as if much of the profit of any transfer may have been needed to meet undisclosed provisions and losses.

Ending fixed rates could—assuming that other SEC reforms now in train do not turn out to have unforeseen implications—lead to a more efficient brokerage business, providing a better service to the investor.

Simmering Spanish campaign for free trade unions. The explosion will come soon. The workers in the army were in Portugal, a leader of Spain's outlawed union, the Workers Commission, said during the run-up to the country's national labour elections.

The Spanish-style unionism, unlike Britain's free, horizontal trade union movement, is based on 28 separate industry-wide unions into a vertical monolithic organization with political power to control one-fourth of the seats in the Cortes (Parliament). It prohibits all other forms of union activity, strikes, and clandestine union leaders and priests speaking for workers' rights and limits industrial democracy for Spain's 14 million workers.

# Wall Street braces itself for the competition in commission rates

At present Wall Street is doing well. Brokerage houses are enjoying a profitable year, and the New York Stock Exchange is about 28 million shares daily; it was 26 million one day last week. This time last year it was 20 million to 22 million shares daily.

much pressure to "unbundle" or offer as a separate service, such items as research—and see exactly where they stand with established clients, the cuts will turn out to average perhaps 9 per cent.

Thus Wall Street tomorrow sees off into the unknown on the first stage of the reform programme set in motion by the SEC and due to receive Presidential approval within the next few days. The President will sign a Congress Bill granting the Commission broad authority to restructure securities markets.

First, though, there is May Day, the outcome of which depends on the attitude of both investors and the brokerage industry towards competitive rates. If the institutions, who have to justify their investment actions to management, government agencies or trustees, do not move towards highly aggressive pricing policies and if brokers are not tempted into irresponsible price cutting, the dangers have probably been exaggerated.

# Simmering Spanish campaign for free trade unions

The explosion will come soon. The workers in the army were in Portugal, a leader of Spain's outlawed union, the Workers Commission, said during the run-up to the country's national labour elections.

Violent clashes with the police, lock-outs, mass sackings and blacklisting are increasing at an alarming rate. The rising militancy of workers, particularly in the Basque country and Catalonia, is indicative of the reaction to nearly 40 years of Franco's brand of industrial relations.

Large-scale redundancies, which have been a feature of the country's economy since the late 1960s, are being contested by the National Syndicate, since the union encompasses both textile company owners and their employees and was a party to the plan from the outset. But the union is threatened by the Workers' Commission if, as one national executive officer said, the plan "violates the rights of the workers".

Unemployed construction workers in Tarrasa are receiving 5,000 pesetas (about £38) per month from the National Syndicate's unemployment fund and are as angry as the textile workers. They are demanding official recognition of their association of unemployed construction workers and a shop steward to represent them—unemployed workers are ineligible for the May elections.

The Spanish-style unionism, unlike Britain's free, horizontal trade union movement, is based on 28 separate industry-wide unions into a vertical monolithic organization with political power to control one-fourth of the seats in the Cortes (Parliament). It prohibits all other forms of union activity, strikes, and clandestine union leaders and priests speaking for workers' rights and limits industrial democracy for Spain's 14 million workers.

Large-scale redundancies, which have been a feature of the country's economy since the late 1960s, are being contested by the National Syndicate, since the union encompasses both textile company owners and their employees and was a party to the plan from the outset. But the union is threatened by the Workers' Commission if, as one national executive officer said, the plan "violates the rights of the workers".

Unemployed construction workers in Tarrasa are receiving 5,000 pesetas (about £38) per month from the National Syndicate's unemployment fund and are as angry as the textile workers. They are demanding official recognition of their association of unemployed construction workers and a shop steward to represent them—unemployed workers are ineligible for the May elections.

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# Business Diary: Flying Dutchman • The Third Man

Thyssen-Bornemisze of the premier European industry affirmed his intention in Business Diary to move his headquarters to his home town, Maastricht, in the Netherlands. The move is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

needs Monaco as a domicile for, as the revealed yesterday, only established a company in the Netherlands. Although the company is not a Dutch domestic company, it is characteristic of the Dutch domestic company.

resembling in the time needed, if nothing else, a Department of Trade inquiry into the affairs of a private sector company. These commonly take at least 18 months.

Statesmanlike. Yesterday's whiz-kids are today's elder statesmen, at least in the fast-moving computer software business. One such is Dick Brandon of Brandon Applied Systems of San Francisco, California, who popped up in London yesterday to announce his plans for Middlesex, England.

Consumer Council in January she said she expected an "abrasive" choice to cause embarrassment.

Consumer choice. When Shirley Williams, the Minister for Prices and Consumer Protection, announced Michael Young's appointment as chairman of the National Consumer Council in January she said she expected an "abrasive" choice to cause embarrassment.

## LONDON UNITED INVESTMENTS LTD.

RESULTS FOR YEAR TO 31st DECEMBER

	1974 £000's	1973 £000's
Turnover	4,557	3,695
Operating profits:		
Insurance	629	468
Property	118	85
Investment and trading	145	197
	892	750
Group overheads and		
Convertible Loan Stock interest	214	200
	678	550
Share of profit of		
associated company	23	27
Profit before tax	701	577
Taxation	366	266
	335	311
Extraordinary item		34
Profit after tax	335	277
Earnings per share:		
Basic	5.12p	4.93p
Diluted	4.98p	4.87p

(1) The directors recommend a final dividend of 1.5075p per share (1.407p) which, with the interim dividend of 1.5838p per share (1.47p) already paid and allowing for the imputed tax, is an increase of 10% over the distribution for the previous year and is the maximum permitted by the Companies Act 1965.

(2) Final dividend payable 13th June to shareholders of record of 16th May.

(3) Annual general meeting, at the Grand Eastern Hotel, on Wednesday, 21st May, 1975 at 12 noon.

(4) Holders of the Company's 2% Convertible Unsecured Loan Stock have the option to convert on 21st May into fully paid shares of 5p each at the rate of one share for every 51.05 nominal of stock converted.

Copies of the Report and Accounts may be obtained from the Secretary, 30-31 Red Lion Court, London EC4A 3ED.



## Knitting division recovery at John Haggas brings peak nearer

By Tony May

A return to form by the knitting division has set the seal on hopes of a further record profit at John Haggas. With nine months trading completed and the final quarter showing promise, the board is sure that its forecast peak year, compared with £1.7m last year, will be exceeded.

Profitable profits for the nine months to March 31 are up from £1.05m to £1.48m, on group sales of £10.01m, against

£9.9m. At the half-way stage the group's spinning division showed a considerable improvement, and offset the fall in profits at the knitting division. The third quarter has seen the knitting section rally, and sales and profits here are now well ahead of last year's levels.

Production at the knitting division will continue at present levels but at the spinning and fur sections production cuts will be necessary in May because stock levels are too high.

In spite of reports to the contrary, the board considers that the textile stock pipeline is far from empty and it expects difficult trading to continue into 1976. The group continues to add to its cash surplus, but will not yet be spending a great deal on extra manufacturing capacity, although some increase on the fur fabrics side is being considered. This unit has done well and it is hoped that it will match last year's record profits.

**FIAT**

**FIAT S.p.A.**

**TURIN, ITALY**

**Annual General Meeting**

The Fiat Stockholders' Meeting took place in Turin on April 28th, 1974. In his report Mr. Giovanni Agnelli, Chairman of Fiat, said that the energy crisis which has accelerated by some years the forecast advent of the maturity phase in the car market, has made it more urgent than ever to complete the investment programme. Fiat's investment policy has been designed to achieve two fundamental objectives: on the one side to develop the process of diversification already under way, while on the other to protect the automobile, the value of which is not questioned.

Mr. Agnelli said that today more than ever it was necessary to achieve close economic co-operation among the countries of the Common Market, even in the absence of common political institutions. The problems of industrial policy, of planning, the development and the acceptance of common objectives, are urgent and await a solution. The new relationships with the countries of the Third and Fourth Worlds involve a rational management of the process of re-allocating resources and technology. After all, he said, it was a matter of building together a more stable and more productive world economy.

The Chairman of Fiat then announced the results of the 1974 operating year:

—Turnover: 2,836 billion lire, compared with 2,270 billion lire in 1973. Exports accounted for 1,117 billion lire compared with 825 in 1973.

—Vehicles sold in 1974: 1,273,526 Fiat, OM and Autobianchi units, compared with 1,353,731 in 1973. Exports accounted for 615,015 units, compared with 325,011 in 1973. In addition, about 690,000 vehicles were built under Fiat licence in foreign plants, with an increase of 14 per cent over 1973.

—Tractors sold in 1974: 62,427 units, compared with 55,846 in 1973. Units imported since September 1st, 1974 are not included in the Fiat turnover as a result of the diversification of this sector from the parent company and its incorporation in Fiat Trattori S.p.A.

—Iron and steel production: the equivalent of 400,000 tons of steel was converted into steel products, compared with 2,240,000 tons in 1973.

—Investments exceeded 333 billion lire, compared with 227 billion lire in 1973.

—Fiat payroll at December 31st,

1974: 188,692 (151,245 factory staff). Compared with 1973, this represents a reduction of 11,882 of whom 7,574 were transferred to associated companies following the diversification of various sectors.

In 1974 Fiat made a considerable effort to mitigate the effects of the crisis in the car market: the percentage of exports increased from 40 per cent to 43 per cent of total production, while the market penetration of our products in the European Economic Community rose from 16 per cent to 17.3 per cent. The fall in demand affected heavily in the second half of 1974, thus making it necessary to take a number of measures aimed at cutting costs and increasing productivity, bringing it into step with market trends.

In the commercial vehicle sector, a programme was initiated which reached its climax in 1974 by Fiat and the German Klockner-Humboldt-Deutz, for the establishment of a joint undertaking to be known as IVECO, which is entrusted with the management of all the activities within the commercial and public sector, as well as the production of heavy trucks. In the Fiat-Trattori S.p.A. and Iveco S.p.A. joint venture, Fiat and Iveco began its activities in 1974.

The following activities of the other production sectors continued successfully in 1974: aero engines, rolling stock, marine automation systems, as well as engineering and nuclear activities.

The Stockholders' Meeting approved the 1974 Balance Sheet which, after depreciation of 236.7 billion lire, compared with 131.5 billion lire in 1973, closed with a surplus of 36,610,108 lire.

A dividend of L.100 on each ordinary and preferred share has been declared to be financed by a withdrawal of 30 billion lire from the Company's capital reserve.

April 1975

## Best year at Martin Black

Glasgow-based wire rope makers Martin Black have ended 1974 with profits and turnover at record levels. The company is raising cash by way of a rights issue of ordinary shares on a 7:20 basis to ordinary shareholders at 50p a share.

After the strong opening which carried the first half profit past the £510,000 mark for the whole of 1973, taxable profits for the full year were almost trebled at £1.4m, easily a new record. Turnover showed a 38 per cent gain from £6.16m to £8.5m. Available profits emerged more than doubled from £207,000 to £385,000, and earnings per share from 6.27p to 13.35p. The total dividend is being raised by the maximum possible that in 3.58p to 4.03p with a final payment of 2.27p.

In connection with the rights issue the board say they expect to pay dividends for 1975 total 4p per share on the enlarged capital for which Treasury permission has been obtained. Circular and provisional allotment letters will be sent to shareholders on May 2 and details in the new shares (nil paid) are expected to start on May 5.

## Farnell keeps to growth path with peak £1.4m

At the half-way mark the board of Farnell Electronics, makers of electronic and electrical equipment, in spite of difficult conditions were able to report a 9½ per cent increase in profits; turnover was up 12½ per cent and they were reasonably confident that the overall result for the year would not fall short of the record £1.29m for 1973-74.

In the event taxable profits and turnover of the group were further pushed to peak levels. Taxable profits were up from £1.28m to £1.38m, while turnover jumped from £12m to £13.4m. The attributable balance was up from £640,000 to £656,000 and earnings a share emerged showing an increase from 12.57p to 13.23p.

Since being marketed in May, 1966, the record of the group has been one of steady growth all the way.

## Estates & Gen agree to merger

Estates & General Investments and County Suburban Holdings have agreed merger terms. This will be achieved by EG acquiring the whole CSH, which will be valued at £5.5 million. 20p EG ordinary units representing 36.4 per cent of the enlarged capital. CSH is controlled by Mr Peter Provost and his family and family trusts and Provost Holdings, which acquired a 2.9 million EG ordinary units last October. The result is that CSH ends with 50.2 per cent or control of EG.

For 1974 EG incurred a pre-tax loss of £133,000 against a profit of £30,000 and after tax the loss was extended to £218,000, which was added to the ordinary items of £238,000. To offset the losses £460,000 was transferred from capital reserve. No further dividend is being paid this interim of 1.04p becomes the year's total compared with 2.58p last year.

## Firth Brown bids for Greening

Having built up a stake of 3.4 million shares in N. Greening & Sons (15 per cent of the equity) Johnson & Firth Brown has come out with an offer for the rest. The terms are one of its shares for every two Greening shares at a price of £4.8m on this Lancashire-based wire products group, compared with a market worth this week of about £3.9m.

The new Johnson shares will rank for the final dividend for 1974-75.

The logic of Johnson's bid is that a merger of Greening and its own interests would bring a further development of its specialized wire activities as a strong and well-based unit.

The Johnson board says that it has had preliminary talks with the Greening board, but the outcome is not revealed. It hopes that the Greening board will recommend the deal.

## ZCI omit dividend

As no dividends were received from Nchansa and Roan Consolidated Mines in respect of the December quarter, Zambia Copper Investments is making no payment for its March quarter.

Sharply higher costs are now being reflected in margins, and with inflation persisting this is bound to continue. Turnover rose from £26.5m to £27m.

## Late rally at United Carriers

Although there is a little variance in profits at United Carriers for 1974-75, the rise from £1.02m to £1.03m reflects improved trading over the last year. At half time taxable profits were down from £500,000 to £299,000, the untaxed economic state of the unit made forecasting impossible.

Turnover of this express freight group has risen from £5m to £8.5m. Shareholders will get a payment of 2.67p, a rise from 2.14p, compared with 1p, and net profits advanced from £482,000 to £505,000.

## Lebone climbs best-ever

Shoe makers and retailers Lebone & Sons have pushed their profits and turnover in the year to January 31 to peak levels, while the group has made a promising start to a current year.

Available profits in the year January 31 expanded from £2,000 to £569,000 while turnover moved up from £6.7m to £8.5m—the retail side accounted for £6.3m against £5m and manufacturing side £1.7m.

The total dividend is £1.14p with a final payment of 1.45p. This was paid from profits per share up from 6p to 3.69p.

## Wadham cool on Provandries approach

A clash over a proposed one-share bid by Provincial Industries for Wadham Stringer like last night. PL's shares were suspended in November pending reorganization talks. It yesterday released a statement of a letter giving notice of the planned bid.

But last night Mr Michael Wadham, Wadham deputy chairman and managing director, said company could not consider a bid by a company whose shares were suspended.

PL spokesman said that with the company already down just under 10 per cent of Wadham equity. The bid is seen as a "good diversification move".

## Simpson

Half year turnover of S. Simpson increased from £5.68m to £6.44m but statutory restrictions on profit margins and increases in manufacturing costs have cut pre-tax profits from £1,000 to £292,000. Exports (due to show encouraging) in profits; turnover was up 12½ per cent and they were reasonably confident that the overall result for the year would not fall short of the record £1.29m for 1973-74.

In the event taxable profits and turnover of the group were further pushed to peak levels. Taxable profits were up from £1.28m to £1.38m, while turnover jumped from £12m to £13.4m. The attributable balance was up from £640,000 to £656,000 and earnings a share emerged showing an increase from 12.57p to 13.23p.

Since being marketed in May, 1966, the record of the group has been one of steady growth all the way.

## Business appointments

## New managing director for the Hodge Group

Mr John Hoddell has been appointed managing director of the Hodge Group, which continues as executive chairman. Mr F. D. Walters has been deputy managing director. Mr George Heisley, finance director, will be replaced by Mr C. G. Owen becomes a non-executive director of Bodycote.

Mr S. H. Dawson has been senior planner, plastics and rubber department. Mr J. M. Campbell has been senior planner, plastics and rubber department. Mr J. M. Campbell has been senior planner, plastics and rubber department.

Mr D. J. Ewart and Mr M. R. Landau have been appointed directors of Greenacres.

The following additional directors have joined the board of the Nuclear Power Co (NPPC): Mr R. H. Campbell (assistant managing director), Mr W. Wadham (assistant managing director), Dr N. Marshall, Mr P. T. Fletcher, Mr W. A. Wicks (finance director and company secretary), Dr Marshall, in addition, will continue with his present appointment in the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority. Mr S. A. Ghalib is to retire.

Mr Lewis Robertson has been appointed managing director of Scottish & Newcastle Breweries. Sir Henry Benson has accepted an appointment as adviser to the Governor of the Bank of England with special reference to industrial finance.

Mr J. M. Cummings, managing director of Willow Francis, has resigned from the board. Mr Ewen McEwen has joined the Advisory Council on Energy Conservation.

Lord Abernethy of Duffryn has been appointed a non-executive director of Albion Life.

The following have been taken into partnership by Rowe & Pittman, Hurst-Brown: Mr A. D. Hurst-Brown, Mr J. A. Ferguson, Mr J. M. Lowery, Mr J. W. Stobart, Mr J. N. Little, Mr A. O. Taylor, Mr P. B. Harvill, Mr C. C. Surtees and Mr A. A. Childs. On the same date Mr S. Bromley-Davenport, Mr D. H. Back, Mr A. N. G. Tibbitts, Mr J. T. Petham, Mr E. A. Orlford, Mr C. F. English, Mr R. A. Bateman and Mr M. J. Read will join the firm as associate members.

Mr Bob Mullinder has become managing director of BTR Refining. Mr John M. Pearson has been appointed financial director of Quinton Harewell.

Mr L. W. Atkinson has been appointed controller, truck rental, British Road Services Group, succeeding Mr A. Smith who has moved to the regional managing director, Midlands BRSG. Mr George Brownhill has been made director of marketing of Rubery Owen Hydraulics.

## Strong day for shares

Equities moved ahead smartly over a broad front on the London stock market yesterday ending four days of retreat. But in the final half hour prices came off the top as speculation that MLR might go up on Friday gained ground. On the fixed interest side there was a similar pattern with the tone steadier than of late.

But dealers attributed the advance to an absence of profit takers rather than any genuine investment. Trading was thin and professional in nature although there was a limited institutional presence, thought to be confined to the oil and food sectors.

The FT index of industrial leaders moved ahead steadily all day until it had reached 338.8.

Property shares were active yesterday after rumours of further sales of commercial properties. Shares in Stock Conversion put up 10p to 186p and Land Securities Investment Trust were 2p higher at 232p.

(up 10.9) by 3 pm. But by the close this advance had been cut to 6 points.

Glits had a steadier session than of late, although prices tended to end up lower.

"Shorts" opened 1/16 point lower, but then suffered from selling and were at one stage 3/16 point off from overnight levels.

But there was then a good recovery and prices rose above overnight levels. Treasury 101 per cent 1978, in particular, was at one stage 1 point up.

However, interest was not sustained and prices then fell back again. Most stocks ended up unchanged, but some were up to 1/2 point higher on the day.

"Longs" were not particularly busy. They also had a day of mixed fortunes, but were eventually 1/2 or 1 point easier. The coupon rate on the "yearling" issue was 1½ per cent.

The leaders divided into those which held shares into gas and those which did not.

Among the latter category were ICI, Glaxo and Beecham, all ending 2p firmer, but Unilever (379p), Reed (269p) and Fisons (384p) were still up to 7p ahead at the close.

In electrical shares, Tube Investments (264p) rose by 8p as did Hawker Siddeley, Thorn rose 8p to 164p and EMI 5p to 147p in electricals. Swan Hunter, off a quarter of a point at 85p, and Vosper 3p easier to 69p, were depressed on the

which rose 10p to 48p renewed bid talk, and Trafalgar House (up 16p) after a 110p contract for iron on April 1st.

Best levels were not held by oil and BP were unchanged at 430p at the end. Shell a Ultramar, though, closed 3p firmer. There was a 1½ improvement in gold levels.

According to Exchange Telegraph active stocks yesterday included ICI, GKN, Trafalgar House, GEC, Imperial Grains, Courtaulds, Delta Metal, R. Insurance, MEFC, Jefferts Smurfit.

First National Finance Corporation shares closed 1p up at 54p after sinking to 53p last week. Director 30p L. Maxted said that the 1974 figures will be issued soon. Even so the Newt Benson proposals (NFC have not been published nor acted on, and the prospect for shareholders remains extremely uncertain).

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## Wall Street

New York, April 29.—Stock prices on the New York Stock exchange turned sharply lower today after wandering through yesterday's session and much of today's.

The Dow Jones average fell 6.96 points to 884.04. It showed small gains in the early morning, but then fell to a low of 884.04 at 10.30, and then recovered to 884.04 at 11.00.

At 1.02 issues declined to 380, and volume totalled 17,740,000 shares compared with 17,850,000 shares yesterday.

Reported continuing concern about the United States Treasury's huge needs to finance deficit financing. It's programme was expected to be outlined on Thursday.

NY silver gains 5c

SILVER gained 5c to 30.00 COMEX. The high of 30.00 was reached at 10.30, and then fell to 29.90 at 11.00, and then recovered to 29.90 at 11.00.

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At 1







## Stock Exchange Prices

**City Offices**  
**Hampton & Sons**

**01-236 7831**

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, April 21. Dealings End, May 2. § Contrango Day, May 5. Settlement Day, May 13.  
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

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### PRIVATE SECRETARY

to Financial Controller

Thomas Borthwick & Sons (UK) Limited, a major British Meat Company, requires a first class private secretary for their Financial Controller.

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Write with full details to:  
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Personnel Assistant,  
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London EC1M 4BX.

**Borthwicks**

### THE SKINNERS' COMPANY

SECRETARY required by Clerk to this City Livery Company close to Cannon Street station. Preferred age range 25-35. Salary £2,600 negotiable. Non-contributory pension scheme. Office hours 9.30 to 3.30. Three weeks' holiday (this year's honoured).

Work includes acting as Social Secretary to Master of Company and his wife and helping organize functions. Initiative, discretion, tact, orderliness, a wide vocabulary, and swift and accurate typing and shorthand essential. Candidates must be able to work swiftly and calmly under pressure and be personable and well spoken. A degree or 'A' levels an advantage.

Please telephone The Clerk at 01-236 5629

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An experienced and motivated individual is required to supervise the activities of a team of securities advisers. The successful candidate will be responsible for the overall management of the team and for ensuring that all advisers are fully trained and up to date. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career with a leading financial institution. Salary negotiable. Please send full details of experience and qualifications to: JUDY KING, COPELAND & LYBRAND, 33 CUTLER LANE, E.C.2.

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FOR MANAGING DIRECTOR

Fluent in both English and German, preferably German mother tongue. Excellent conditions. Salary negotiable from £2,600 p.a.

Letters only, please, marked confidential to:  
The Managing Director, Dynamit Nobel (U.K.) Ltd.,  
Greenock House, 36-40 High Street,  
Slough SL1 1HF

### FRENCH ENGLISH SECRETARY/PA

To the French General Manager of an Engineering Company, Manchester.

Perfect French is essential for this position which involves liaison with the parent Company in France. Shortland, audio and typing skills. Age 25+. Salary negotiable from £2,900 dependent upon experience and qualifications.

Tel. 061-834 5191 for immediate interview.

### BRITISH WATERWAYS BOARD

SENIOR PERSONAL SECRETARY TO GENERAL MANAGER

MARYLEBONE, N.W.1

\*£2,619 p.a.-£3,024 p.a.

Applicants should be women, aged 25-35, with a minimum of 5 years' experience in a similar position. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the General Manager's office and for ensuring that all correspondence is handled efficiently. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career with a leading public body. Salary negotiable. Please send full details of experience and qualifications to: The Personnel Officer, British Waterways Board, 150 Victoria Road, Watford WD17 3BA, quoting ref. 25/75.

### NATIONAL GAS CONSUMERS' COUNCIL

£4,179

Committee Secretary

New Haymarket offices • Responsible to the Director for the Secretaryship of the National Council's Meetings and Committees • Involving preparation of agenda, reports, briefing notes and minutes • Liaison with Regional Gas Consumers' Councils, Departments of Energy and Prices and Consumer Protection and British Gas Corporation • Some travel • Dependent equivalent preferred • First class secretarial and P.A. skills required • Knowledge and experience of committee procedure at national level or gas industry administrative experience • Salary £3,357 to £4,179.

Job description from and applications to the Director,  
National Gas Consumers' Council,  
3 Buckingham Gate,  
Westminster, London  
SW1E 6JH  
by 16th May.

### SENIOR SECRETARY

For a firm of Cost and Management Accountants requires an experienced Secretary, age 25-35, for a Senior Executive. Apart from secretarial skills she must have a pleasant personality and neat appearance as well as initiative to accept responsibility in the expanding position. If you have previous experience of either cost or management accountancy, an interest in accountancy training, these would be an asset.

Salary is negotiable on a scale to £3,000 p.a., depending on age and experience. Pleasant office, L.V. and Staff Garden, pension scheme and other benefits.

For further details please contact:

MISS HUSKINSON

on 01-507 2211

at the S.C.M.A.

63 PORTLAND PLACE,

LONDON, W.1.

### Legal Aide!

We are looking for an experienced Secretary to work with a senior partner of a large firm of City Solicitors. She will be involved in work which is highly confidential, will need to be a good organiser and prepared to take on plenty of responsibility. Previous legal or banking experience an advantage but not essential. Own office and electric typewriter; both shorthand and audio-typing required.

Competitive salary and good benefits.

TELEPHONE: MRS. HOWARD, 01-606 3060

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With pleasant personality, and good dress sense required for dynamic business tycoon. She must be prepared to work long hours under difficult situations and on own initiative. No ties. Able to travel in U.K. and abroad and hold current driving licence, and be able to converse with clients on all levels.

Luxury accommodation available. Salary negotiable. Please enclose photograph. Apply in writing to Box 2235 M, The Times.

### SECRETARY/PA TO MANAGING DIRECTOR

As a leading Contracting Company in the Petrochemical field, we are seeking a Secretary/PA. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the Managing Director's office and for ensuring that all correspondence is handled efficiently. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career with a leading public body. Salary negotiable. Please send full details of experience and qualifications to: The Personnel Officer, British Waterways Board, 150 Victoria Road, Watford WD17 3BA, quoting ref. 25/75.

### ORGANISE DYNAMIC

M.D. £3,000 NEG.!

M.D. of rapidly expanding

firm, requires a dynamic

Secretary/PA to manage

the day-to-day running

of the Managing Director's

office and to ensure that

all correspondence is

handled efficiently. The

position offers a

challenging and

rewarding career

with a leading

public body. Salary

negotiable. Please

send full details of

experience and

qualifications to:

The Personnel Officer,

British Waterways

Board, 150 Victoria

Road, Watford

WD17 3BA, quoting

ref. 25/75.

### LEADING ARCHITECTS

P.A.-UP TO £3,000 p.a.

Royal and intelligent P.A.

to a leading architectural

firm, requires a dynamic

Secretary/PA to manage

the day-to-day running

of the Managing Director's

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Board, 150 Victoria

Road, Watford

WD17 3BA, quoting

ref. 25/75.

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requires a

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To take charge of the department concerned with the practical aspects of home-making including do-it-yourself, home maintenance, household products and equipment.

She will be an experienced journalist with initiative and ideas and have good background knowledge and contacts in this field. She will be able to commission, brief, edit and check material from specialist contributors, as well as write clear, concise copy herself.

She will be responsible for the efficient administration of her department and be able to work quickly and accurately under pressure.

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T.P.L. Magazines Limited,  
Elm House, 10-16 Elm Street,  
London WC1X 0BP, or telephone 01-278 2345, Ext. 33,  
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This exciting opportunity is open to a dynamic and energetic individual who would enjoy working in a busy but interesting environment. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the Chief Medical Officer's office and for ensuring that all correspondence is handled efficiently. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career with a leading public body. Salary negotiable. Please send full details of experience and qualifications to: The Personnel Officer, British Waterways Board, 150 Victoria Road, Watford WD17 3BA, quoting ref. 25/75.

For further details please contact:

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63 PORTLAND PLACE,

LONDON, W.1.

### A FLAVOUR OF CONTINENTAL TRAVEL

Chairman of a small Group of Companies based North of London seeks lady Assistant of not less than about 28 with good experience as a confidential Personal Secretary/P.A. Preferably with own car. Able to handle correspondence on own initiative, excellent speeds both shorthand/typing. Work includes dealing with properties, continental travel and a variety of administrative and personal matters.

SALARY OF AROUND £3,000 PLUS BONUS AND SOME TRAVEL CONCESSIONS.

Please write Box 1178 M, The Times.

Apologies to any applicants who wrote in response to this advertisement last week. Replies were seriously delayed due to error on box number.

### PERSONAL TOUGH

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Senior Secretary (you get your own assistant) with

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individual who will

be able to handle

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**50FT. YAWL.** Spreadw'l 10' requires crew, including skipper. Call Captain Jimmie Smith at 507-2727. In August/September, a 50' yawl will be available for charter. Also be required is a 20' skiff. For more information, call Captain on 507-2727 evenings only.

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12 rooms, 5 bedrooms, swimming air conditioned, swimming magnificent view. £2400. Invaluable in sterling. 15333.

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